THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS

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PROTESTERS WILL BE DECLARED 'ENEMY OF GOD', WARNS IRAN

Iran's attorney general Mohammad Movahedi Azad warned on Saturday those taking part in protests will be considered 'enemy of God'

NEW MASS RALLIES GRIP MAJOR CITIES

"Prosecutors must carefully and without delay prepare the grounds for the trial and decisive confrontation with those who seek foreign domination over the country," a statement read. 'Enemy of God' is a death penalty charge in Iran. The two-week-old protests showed no signs of slowing, with major cities hit by new mass rallies on Saturday

ACTIVISTS WARN OF INTENSIFYING CRACKDOWN

- The toll has gone up to 65, according to the US-based Human Rights Activists News Agency. Activists said they fear the authorities are intensifying their suppression under cover of internet blackout
- The attorney general's statement comes a day after the US reiterated its warning against violent crackdown on protesters | P11

2,300

THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE DETAINED BY IRANIAN FORCES AS PER U.S. SOURCES

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

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UNSUSTAINABLE

Don wants to cap credit card rate at 10% from Jan 20

Banks say it would cut credit access to retail customers in a big way

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

AMID plunging popularity ratings, US President **Donald Trump** on Saturday ordered a cap on interest rates on credit card dues at 10% for a year. The new rate will be effective from January 20, which coincides with completion of Trump's one year as president.

Making the announcement, the president said he will no longer let Americans be "ripped off" by credit card companies, which charge about 20-30% annually on credit card debts.

While economists and analysts globally called it unsustainable, banks said it would lead to massive pullback of credit access to retail customers. US hedge fund manager Bill Ackman said: "My concern about capping rates at 10% is that doing so will inevitably cause millions of Americans to have their cards cancelled as credit card companies lose the ability to adequately price subprime credit risk. Consumers denied credit cards will be forced to turn to loan sharks whose rates and terms will be vastly worse for borrowers."

The move comes amid rising household debt in the US, which jumped by by $197 billion to reach $18.59 trillion in the third quarter. As for credit card balances , they rose by $24 billion from the previous quarter and stood at $1.23 trillion.

Though no Indian card issuer chose to react, analysts this newspaper spoke to rubbished the idea as "a wild call that strikes at the very root of free markets and markets-driven interest rate regime". In India, credit cards charge anywhere from 36-40% annually. "If you don't charge a risk premium on a completely risky loan/unsecured product like credit card, how can a bank continue to be in business? Even in the US, the effective interest rate is around 7% now and with addition of staff cost, interest cost on the money being lent through credit card, a pricing of 10% is simply not sustainable," an analyst said.

ED goes to SC against Didi on I-PAC, WB files caveat

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ New Delhi/Kolkata

THE Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Saturday moved the Supreme Court against the West Bengal government in the I-PAC money laundering case.

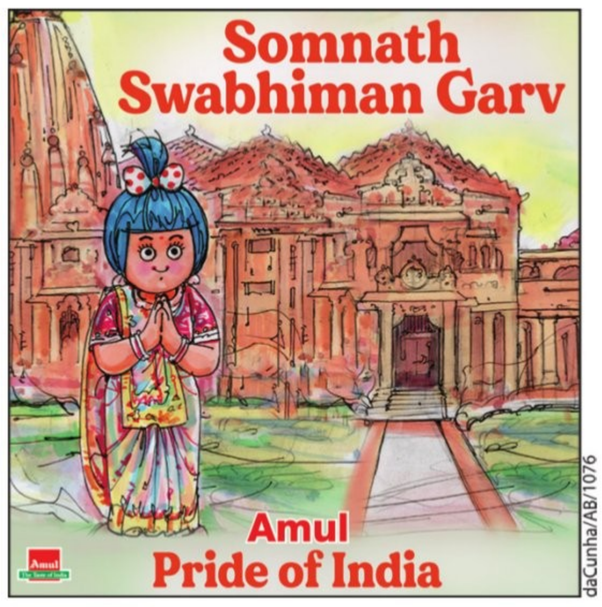
Mamata Banerjee

Alleging that its series of raids for the probe was obstructed by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, the ED sought a CBI probe into the incident, claiming its "right to conduct a fair and independent investigation has been curtailed by the state machinery".

In a swift counter-move, the West Bengal government filed a caveat in the Supreme Court on Saturday, seeking to ensure that no order is passed without giving it an opportunity to be heard.

The ED on Thursday raided the premises of I-PAC and its director Pratik Jain in Kolkata as part of a money laundering probe into an alleged coal pilferage scam. Mamata has accused the ED of overreach.

The ED on Friday had approached the Calcutta High Court, alleging that the CM took away incriminating documents from the agency's custody. Amid high courtroom drama, the HC adjourned the case to January 14.



From Apartheid-era township to top of tree

GOMESH S @ Paarl

JUST about 25km North of Durban, KwaMashu township holds a historical significance in South Africa. It was established under Apartheid to house relocated Black South Africans from Cato Manor. A neighbourhood that is steeped in history — the Mahatma Gandhi House is close by — and houses close to 175,000 people (2011 census) who continue to struggle with poverty, unemployment and crime.

For the last few weeks, the locality has been cherishing a rare moment of joy. One of their sons — Nqobani Mokoena — has turned into a symbol of hope not just for the locality but the whole country. Raised by a single mother, Princess Mokoena, with help from a joint family, the 19-year-old pacer has lit up the ongoing SA20 for Paarl Royals.

Nqobani Mokoena

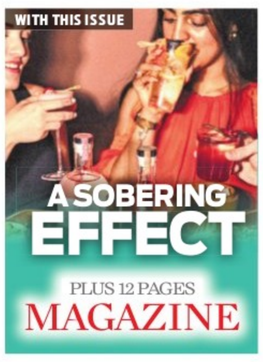
It was not easy as a child. Princess worked as an assistant in a firm and struggled to make ends meet and at times supporting Nqobani's cricketing dream seemed impossible. "Buying cricket gear was difficult. My sisters were assisting me, and they were too expensive," Princess recalls. "Kids in the township don't focus on school, don't focus on their talent, and don't respect their family."

The teenager found a new life through cricket. Only in its fourth year, just like IPL, SA20 is making cricket a viable career option. P13

EXPRESS READ

Six killed in Mississippi, suspect in custody

Authorities say a person was in custody Saturday after six people were killed in a series of related shootings in eastern Mississippi, United States. Clay County Sheriff Eddie Scott said in a Facebook post that 'multiple innocent lives" were lost "due to violence' in the town of West Point, near the Alabama border. The sheriff told WTVA that six people were killed in three locations. A suspect was in custody and there was no threat to the community, the sheriff wrote on Facebook



Half of world's new Parkinson's cases will be in China: Laureate

RASHMI PATIL @Bengaluru

"IT is estimated that in the next decade, China will have over half of the new cases of Parkinson's disease diagnosed," said Nobel Laureate Prof Randy Schekman. Optimistic about his current research on the disease, the cell biologist was confident that he will leave behind breakthroughs that will make a difference in the lives of those afflicted.

He was speaking at the presentation of Infosys Science Foundation's Infosys Prize 2025, in Bengaluru on Saturday.

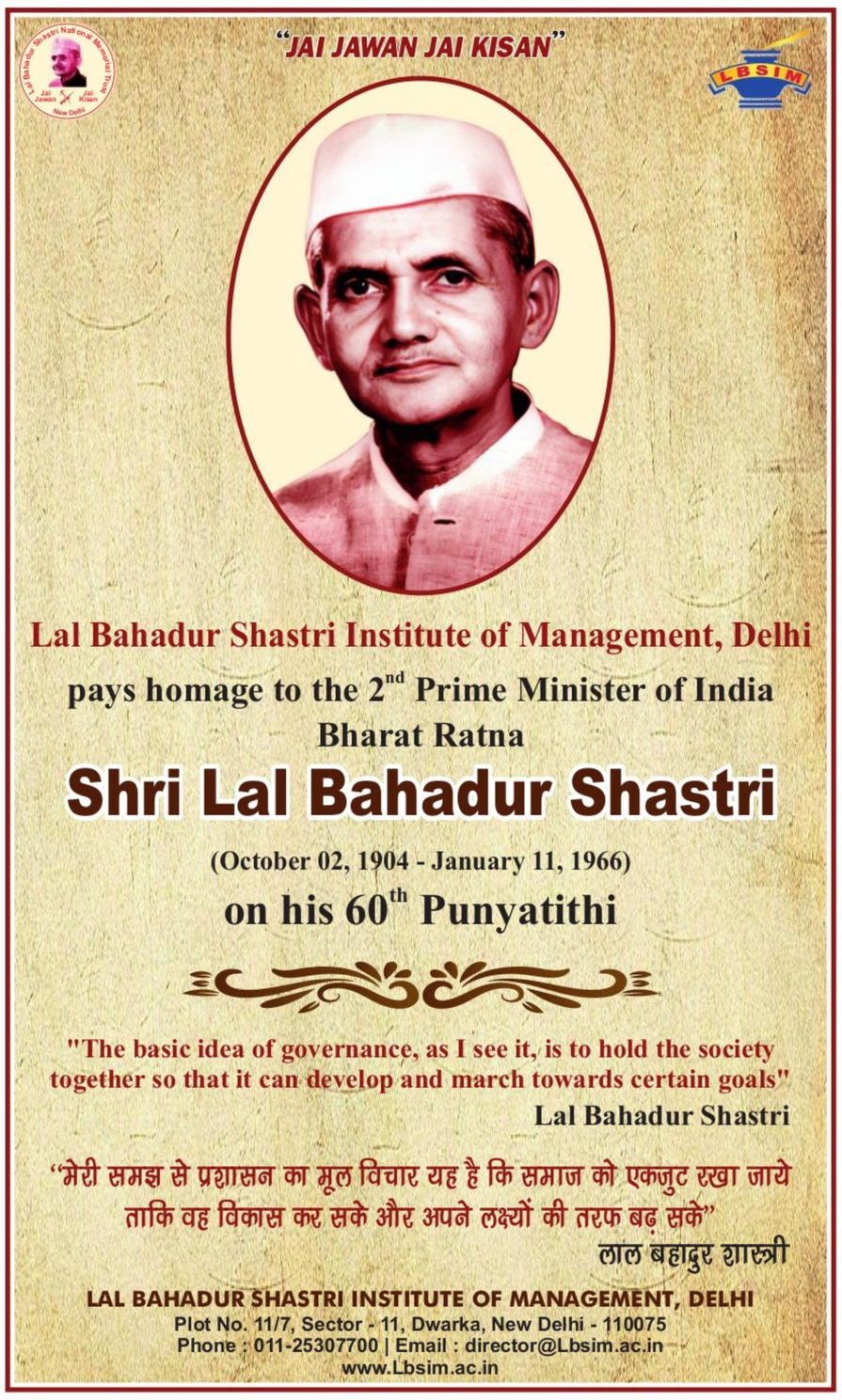
CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Interior K'taka sees cold wave, B'luru drizzle

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

PEOPLE in Karnataka on Saturday experienced unique weather for this season of the year. While parts of interior Karnataka and north Karnataka experienced severe cold wave conditions, most parts of Bengaluru received a light drizzle. IMD on Saturday issued a cold wave alert for interior and north Karnataka with temperatures dropping by 3-6 degrees Celsius in many regions, including Bidar, Kalaburagi and Bagalkot.

IMD Director, Bengaluru in-charge, N Puviarasan, said Karnataka is experiencing different weather conditions and it is a rare phenomenon. North easterly and north western winds are blowing over north and interior Karnataka and they are experiencing severe cold wave conditions. Some parts of coastal Karnataka and south-interior Karnataka are receiving easterly winds from Bay of Bengal. P7


"JAI JAWAN JAI KISAN"
LBSIM
Lal Bahadur Shastri Institute of Management, Delhi
pays homage to the 2nd Prime Minister of India
Bharat Ratna
Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri
(October 02, 1904 - January 11, 1966)
on his 60th Punyatithi
"The basic idea of governance, as I see it, is to hold the society together so that it can develop and march towards certain goals"
Lal Bahadur Shastri
"मेरी समझ से प्रशासन का मूल विचार यह है कि समाज को एकजुट रखा जाये ताकि वह विकास कर सके और अपने लक्ष्यों की तरफ बढ़ सके"
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THE NEW SUNDAY EXPRESS | BRIGHTSIDE

ALMANAC TODAY
• Sunday: 11.01.2026 • Year: Vishwavasu • Ayana: Dakhsinayana
• Ritu: Himanth • Masa: Pausa • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Ashtami 12.06 pm
• Nakshatra: Chiththa 8.08 pm • Moon in Vrischika rashi • Rahukaala: 04:30 pm to 06:00 pm
• Gulikakala: 03:00 pm to 04:30 pm • Yamaganda: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm

WEATHER
MIN 16°C | MAX 23°C
FORECAST
Overcast

Sunrise 06.44 am
Sunset 06.10 pm
Moonrise 12.25 am
Moonset 12.20 pm

BRINGING BACK THE MAGIC OF DRAMA TO SCHOOLS

Udupi-based Rangabhoomi has launched 'Ranga Shikshana' to rekindle interest in theatre among schoolchildren

PRAKASH SAMAGA @ Udupi

WITH film-song mashups and flashy dance performances increasingly dominating school annual day celebrations, drama, as an art form, has silently slipped off the stage in many educational institutions.

Recognising this cultural void, Rangabhoomi, a 60-year-old Udupi-based organisation, launched an initiative, 'Ranga Shikshana', last year to rekindle interest among the younger generation in theatre. As part of 'Ranga Shikshana', a training-cum-workshop, exclusively for schoolchildren, is steadily bringing the magic of drama back to school auditoriums.

Narrating how drama is becoming rare in school functions, Rangabhoomi general secretary Pradeep Chandra Kuthpady said, "Over the last decade, schools almost stopped staging dramas during their annual day celebrations or other functions. Children received no training and many were completely unaware of theatre as a medium of entertainment."

The growing distraction from electronic gadgets only deepened the disconnect between youngsters and traditional performing arts. To counter this, Rangabhoomi approached 12 schools in and around Udupi last year and proposed the idea of professional drama training for students. With support from Neenasam theatre institute, well-known directors were invited to conduct a one-month training-cum-workshop for students of classes 8, 9 and 10, he told *TNSE*.

"We wanted to make sure children received quality training. So, we collaborated with Neenasam. Their trainers brought discipline, creativity and proper structure to the sessions," said Kuthpady, who is a drama artiste.

The results were inspiring. Around 350 students were trained last year. For the first time in many years, many educational institutions featured dramas in their annual day events. "Drama not only entertains, but also boosts the confidence and memory power of children. They learn acting, dialogue delivery and work as a team," Kuthpady said.

Building on last year's success, Rangabhoomi commenced the training programme in 11 schools for about 250 students in Udupi this year. Workshops will end this month-end, allowing students ample time to focus on exams later. An estimated Rs 6 lakh is spent annually by Rangabhoomi on these training programmes for schoolchildren. No fee is collected from students and their schools, he said.

To cap off the training season, a natakothsava (drama festival) will be held this month-end, where participating schools will stage plays. Staging two shows is compulsory after the training-cum-workshop. Students should stage a drama at their school first and another at natakothsava. The students may also stage dramas if they are invited by other institutions and organisations, Kuthpady said.

The training programme will help students overcome stage fear and improve their communication skills. Students, who learn drama, will start loving this performing art later. Recalling one instance, Kuthpady said a woman, who works as a labourer, recently expressed happiness over her daughter's improvement in academics after attending the training programme. Her daughter now reads books instead of being glued to her mobile phone. Her behaviour too has changed for good. Vidyavantha Acharya, convener of Ranga Shikshana, said when this initiative was taken to schools, it was welcomed wholeheartedly. It soon became a huge success. Students, their parents, instructors and teachers were made to understand that through theatre, more than 20 life skills can be learnt.

Maybe after a few years, schools will make theatre training part of their activities and conduct drama festivals at the school-level, he added.

Aanchal Abhishek, a Class 9 student from EMHS, Kunjibettu, said Ranga Shikshana helped her gain confidence. "Now, I am participating in debate competitions and winning prizes," she added.

> **We wanted to make sure children received quality training. So, we collaborated with Neenasam. Their trainers brought discipline, creativity and proper structure to the sessions**
>
> **— Pradeep Chandra Kuthpady, Rangabhoomi general secretary**

Schoolchildren stage a play after attending the 'Ranga Shikshana' training programme conducted by Rangabhoomi, Udupi

Pipeline works to affect traffic in Shanti Nagar

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

TRAFFIC on Shanthinagar Double Road, Nanjappa Road, and surrounding areas in the Shanthinagar assembly will be hit for the next 30 to 40 days as Bengaluru Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has taken up replacing the old pipeline network worth around Rs 40 crores in the assembly.

According to Surendra Reddy, senior site engineer from a private agency that has bagged the contract to execute the replacement of old water lines, "120 kms of pipeline network is to be replaced in the assembly. The starting point of the assembly is Jogupalya in Ulsoor ward. The majority of the work near Ulsoor has already been completed. Last week feeder line at Nanjappa Road in the Shanthinagar ward of the Shanthinagar was taken up, and this will be completed in a week's time. That apart, work on Lakshmi Road, Basappa Road will also be taken up. The checking of contamination and also testing will be done, and it may take 45 days to complete," said Reddy.

The piipeline work in progress | EXPRESS

As per BWSSB officials, the work is in full swing as the Bengaluru Central City Corporation is all set to start the whitetopping project on the Double Road stretch."300mm diameter, 200mm diameter pipes installed will be the feeder main lines, and 100mm diameter pipes are being installed in sub-roads for house connection. Once the work is completed, the issue of contamination will be solved. This assembly has old areas, and there is a seepage from sanitary lines, hence the contamination of drinking water. The BWSSB is now installing top-grade Ductile Iron (DI) pipes. Inside cement coating, outside rubber coating, and there are also steel wires for protection. At least for the next 25 years, there won't be any contamination issue.

While work is going at a brisk pace, the residents of Basappa Road, Nanjappa Road, and surroundings say the entry and exit for over 10 streets has been impacted due to digging near Double Road. "Sewage mixed water in drinking-water taps remained from last year, and despite bringing it to officials and elected representatives, the issue remained unsolved. And now the work has begun. Had the authorities acted last year, the residents would not have struggled to take their vehicle on a daily basis now. We hope, at least now, the BWSSB will fix the issue permanently," said Renuka Prasad, from Shanthinagar Resident Welfare Association.

2 TNIE journos win Karnataka Media Academy Awards 2025

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

TWO journalists from The New Indian Express have been selected for the Karnataka Media Academy's Annual Media Awards 2025, the Academy announced on January 9.

Senior Associate Editor Gulnaar Mirza and Senior Assistant Editor Amit Upadhye were shortlisted along with 28 others. The awards recognise journalistic excellence across Karnataka. The Annual Media Awards carry a cash prize of Rs 50,000.

Survivors of domestic violence to be trained in mushroom farming

DHIYA VEER @Bengaluru

PARIHAR'S Skill Development Centre, a wing of the Bengaluru city police, is set to roll out a mushroom farming programme by the month-end to enable domestic violence survivors and underprivileged women to achieve financial independence through sustainable livelihoods.

Dr Bindya Yohannan, joint secretary in charge of Parihar, said the initiative would be added to the centre's existing skill development courses, which include candle-making, tailoring and chocolate-making, aimed at equipping women with income-generating skills. She noted that the centre has also seen success with its programme to train women in driving autos. Women are provided e-autos along with training and safety equipment such as smartphones and GPS-enabled dash cameras.

"Our trainers are currently undergoing training in mushroom farming. We plan to set up the farms within unused premises of police quarters," Dr Bindya said. Funded in collaboration with the Horticulture Department, the initiative will combine hands-on agricultural training with technical guidance and market-linked support, she said. The programme is expected to benefit at least 25 women every quarter. An expert from the University of Agricultural Sciences, GKVK, Bengaluru, noted that the mushroom cultivation depends on technical and environmental factors. N Umashankar, Professor and Head, Department of Agricultural Microbiology, said the success of such initiatives is contingent on the choice of mushroom variety and the level of expertise involved in training and execution.

"Oyster mushrooms are relatively easier to cultivate compared to other varieties, but the process is still dependent on the availability of suitable substrate and the maintenance of specific environmental conditions. Factors such as water quality, humidity and temperature are critical. Bengaluru's climate is generally conducive for mushroom farming, and situating farms closer to key inputs like substrate can help reduce transportation costs and improve economic efficiency," he said.

"There is consistent demand for mushrooms, particularly in Bengaluru, but sustainability depends on adherence to scientific cultivation practices," he added. While profitability will be assessed over time, officials described the event as a promising new initiative for 2026.

PRR-affected farmers to protest on Jan 13

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

FARMERS and landowners affected by the Peripheral Ring Road (PRR) project have announced a protest outside the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) office on January 13, seeking the intervention of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and demanding compensation strictly under the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (RFCTLARR Act).

Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha representative Raghu, who is leading the protest, demanded transparency from the BDA and a review of the compensation process. "We have cooperated for years in the hope of Bengaluru's development and trusted the government to provide just compensation under the 2013 Act. Instead, the government has chosen a backdoor route by approving new compensation schemes through a Cabinet decision," he said.

The protesters demanded that Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar review the decision, failing which they urged the Chief Minister to intervene.

Farmers alleged that despite filing an affidavit in the HC in 2015 assuring compensation under the 2013 Act, the BDA is now acting contrary to it. They further alleged that officials, from clerical staff to IAS and KAS officers, were coercing farmers to accept compensation under the outdated Land Acquisition Act of 1894. According to them, officials, accompanied by police personnel, were creating an atmosphere of fear in villages to obtain signatures on pre-drafted consent applications. The farmers said they would gather at 12.30 pm on January 13 and warned of intensified protests and individual legal action if their demands were ignored.

MAESTRO IN ACTION

Veteran music composer Ilaiyaraaja performs at 'Ilaiyaraaja 50: Live in Concert' organised by Akshaya Patra under the banner 'Music for Meals' at BIEC Bengaluru on Saturday | KEVIN NASHON

EXPRESS READ

'Project Walkaluru' launched to promote walkable footpaths

Bengaluru: The Bengaluru North City Corporation Commissioner, Pommala Sunil Kumar, flagged off the "Project Walkaluru" footpath walk covering a 5-km stretch on Saturday. The Commissioner and Joint Commissioner Mohammed Nayeem Momin walked along with over 120 participants, including two citizens from the Netherlands. The objective is to encourage citizens to use continuous footpaths and identify major obstacles along walking routes. Meanwhile, the East City Corporation carried out a footpath encroachment removal drive in the Marathahalli sub-division of the Mahadevapura Assembly constituency. Officials said unauthorised encroachments were removed and walkability improved. They warned shop owners against encroaching on footpaths and reiterated pedestrians' right to obstruction-free walkways.

BMRCL to start main line testing on Pink Line from today

Bengaluru: BMRCL will commence main line rolling stock type tests on the Pink Line corridor between Kalena Agrahara and Tavarekere, covering a 7.5-km stretch. The testing will begin on Sunday and is expected to continue until mid-April. BMRCL said the main line testing is a crucial pre-commissioning activity aimed at validating train performance and ensuring seamless integration of various systems under real field conditions, which is mandatory for obtaining statutory safety approvals. During the testing phase, a series of technical evaluations will be conducted, including traction and brake type tests and oscillation trials at varying speeds. Officials said the exercise marks a key milestone in the Pink Line project and is essential to ensure safe and reliable operations before the corridor is opened to the public.

XPRESS FOCUS SMD INITIATIVE

Empowering Every Goan

Inspired by the reform-driven leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and implemented with speed and sensitivity under Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, Goa's development journey reflects decisive governance delivering housing rights, modern education, advanced healthcare, digital skills, and institutional excellence to every section of society.

Mhaje Ghar Yojana

A flagship housing and land-regularisation scheme.

- 'Mhaje Ghar Yojana' stands as a landmark initiative reflecting the Goa Government's resolve to deliver dignified housing and rightful ownership to every Goan.
- Granting property rights to lakhs of Goa's citizens entangled in nearly 11 types of legal disputes is a significant symbol of empowerment. This will benefit half of Goa's population (10 lakh citizens entangled in legal complications) have Class I ownership rights to their homes.
- Goa Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant and his team, by enacting a single law, have resolved all housing discrepancies, benefiting half of Goa's population. It aims to regularise houses built on own land, government land and comunidade (community) land and grant Class I ownership rights to long-time residents.
- Maximum area norms: for houses on government land up to 400 sq m + 2 m buffer, for comunidade land up to 300 sq m.

National Institute of Technology, Goa

- Constructed at a cost of Rs 390.8 crore, The campus has a total built up area of 70,750 sqm and can accommodate 1,260 students.
- The campus has many environment-friendly features such as solar plant, sewage treatment plant, water saving fittings and fixtures in sanitaryware, efficient electric lightings, and solar powered street lights.
- 40% seats are reserved for Goan students (Home State quota) & 10% seats reserved for the students from Dadra, Nagar Haveli & Daman & Diu.

Government Primary School Initiatives

- Dilapidated government primary school buildings have been renovated with new roofs, flooring, painting, electrical works, and safe toilet facilities.
- Smart classroom infrastructure has been introduced, including digital boards, computers, and ICT-enabled teaching tools and enhanced electrical setups for technology-based learning as part of broader efforts to modernize teaching and bring schools on par with private institutions.

- 100% primary schools now have essential amenities like drinking water, electricity, functional toilets, and hand-washing stations under Samagra Shiksha.
- To date, 492 government schools have been renovated or upgraded, creating a more conducive learning environment for holistic development.

National Institute of Water Sports

- NIWS is a landmark institution aimed at developing talent in water sports and rescue operations.
- Equipped with advanced training facilities, modern gear, and expert instructors, NIWS offers 28 specialised courses for civilians and defence personnel. With an investment of Rs. 53.67 crore, it serves as a catalyst for tourism and employment by preparing youth for global careers in water sports.
- The Institute has conducted 431 new/revalidation courses in 23 different Watersports disciplines and a total of 8195 persons trained and certified."

Development begins with effective governance, delivered through health and education

Chief Minister

Strengthening healthcare from the grassroots level

Over the past decade, Goa has steadily transformed its public healthcare system, making quality medical services more accessible, modern, and reliable for people across the state. From village-level health centres to advanced tertiary hospitals, the focus has been clear - care closer to home, backed by world-class facilities

- Goa has strengthened healthcare at the grassroots level by upgrading Primary and Community Health Centres with better infrastructure, modern equipment, and 24×7 services, supported by a wide network of 24 PHCs, 5 CHCs, and over 230 Sub-Health Centres serving rural and semi-urban communities.
- Secondary healthcare access has been expanded across the state through strengthened district and sub-district hospitals, including upgraded cottage hospitals, with 2 District Hospitals and 2 Sub-District Hospitals ensuring round-the-clock medical services beyond urban centres.
- The Super Speciality Block at Goa Medical College and Hospital represents a major leap in tertiary care, offering advanced super-speciality treatment under one roof and significantly reducing the need for patients to seek care outside Goa, backed by 1,000+ beds across departments.

All India Institute of Ayurveda

- All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) Goa is advancing integrative Ayurveda through quality clinical care, academic excellence, and collaborative research.
- The hospital operates 25 specialised OPDs, serving 800+ patients daily with free Ayurvedic medicines.
- Since inception, AIIA Goa has recorded over 5.25 lakh OPD visits and 31,000+ IPD admissions, reflecting growing public trust.
- More than 77,200 Panchakarma therapies and 1.35 lakh radiology and laboratory investigations have been successfully conducted.
- Crossing 800 daily OPD patients is a proud milestone, highlighting AIIA Goa's expand
- Of the 100 seats for the Bachelor in Ayurveda Medicine and Surgery (BAMS) programme on offer at the institute, 50 seats will be reserved for Goa students, while the rest will be filled centrally under all India quota.

Coding And Robotics Education in School (CARES)

- Goa Government initiative to integrate coding, computational thinking and robotics into the curriculum of government and aided schools, equipping labs with robotics kits and digital tools like the GOVIN IDE used by over 12,000 students across 442 schools.
- It benefits students and teachers by building 21st-century digital skills, expanding tech learning to middle school students (Classes VI–VIII), fostering hands-on problem-solving and innovation, and has helped students achieve top rankings in national challenges like the Bebras India Challenge.

Vidya Samiksha Kendra

- The Vidya Samiksha Kendra is a central hub for academic and administrative data, managed by the Directorate of Education, Government of Goa. It uses advanced technologies like Artificial Intelligence, data visualisation, and analytics tools such as Power BI to analyse Information from various educational Initiatives.
- Its core aim is to leverage data for better decision-making and enhance the overall quality of education. VSK functions as a smart system that ensures both students and teachers receive timely support for an improved learning experience.
- Under VSK, a weekly practice bot called Parakh provides practice questions across subjects such as Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, EVS, English, and regional languages like Konkani and Marathi. For Grades 1 to 4, all subjects are available in English, Konkani, and Marathi mediums. The questions are mapped to specific learning outcomes, which are further aligned with chapters and subjects. In a format similar to entrance exams, all questions are in MCQ form-familiarising students with competitive formats from early learning stages.

- **VSK Coverage:**
  - Total Schools: 1,470
  - Total Teachers: 16,148
  - Total Students: 289,223
- **Breakdown of Schools:**
  - Government: 764
  - Aided: 558
  - Private: 141
  - Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas: 2
  - Kendriya Vidyalayas: 5
- **Breakdown of Teachers:**
  - Government: 3,530
  - Aided: 10,204
  - Private: 2,201
  - JNVs: 55
  - Special: 42
  - KVs: 115

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Saturday said maintenance of law and order is fundamental for tourism to flourish and welcomed the restoration of peace in Dakshina Kannada district, calling it a positive sign for the region's development

BJP & JDS DEFEND VB-G RAM G ACT, SAY CONG SPREADING FALSE PROPOGANDA

NDA welcomes special session to debate issue; Confronting Centre's every move detrimental to K'taka growth: HDK

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE BJP-JDS alliance on Saturday chalked out a plan to counter the Congress' 'MGNREGA Bachao Sangram' by creating awareness at the gram panchayat level across Karnataka. The alliance said that the VB-G RAM G Act introduced by the Union Government is not "anti-people."

Addressing a press conference along with Union Minister for Steel and Heavy Industries and JDS leader HD Kumaraswamy, state BJP president BY Vijayendra declared that the BJP-JDS alliance will expose the Congress' false propaganda that claims that the VB-G RAM-G Act curtails the powers of the GPs.

Vijayendra said that the NDA welcomes the State Government's decision to convene a special session of the Assembly to discuss the VB-G RAM G Act. He said there can be a discussion on the floor of the House on what the Congress did to the country through MGNREGA during the UPA rule and what the NDA has achieved since 2014.

He also chided that the Siddaramaiah government, which chose not to implement the National Education Policy, has not implemented the State Education Policy (SEP) either. "The people of the country are aware of the fact that Congress never respected Mahatma Gandhi and Dr BR Ambedkar. When lakhs of crores of rupees have been spent on MGNREGA, was it wrong on the part of the PM to check corruption by bringing in the new legislation? The NDA has spent Rs 7.8 lakh crore on MGNREGA," he elaborated.

Kumaraswamy said that the BJP and JDS are ready to accept the open challenge posed by Deputy CM DK Shivakumar for a debate on the issue.

State BJP president BY Vijayendra, Union Minister HD Kumaraswamy and LoP in Assembly R Ashoka at a press meet in Benglauru on Saturday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

READY FOR A DEBATE, SAYS SIDDARAMAIAH

CM Siddaramaiah said that the government is always ready for a debate on MGNREGA and would soon launch a big campaign against the Union Government over the VB-G RAM G Act. He slammed the BJP leaders in the state for defending the Union Government, though injustice was done to Karnataka.

Kumaraswamy said that the Union Government has modified the employment guarantee scheme to check the illegalities and corruption prevalent in the implementation of MGNREGA. He claimed that he had adequate information on the misuse of the scheme, as there was duplication of works.

The UPA regime between 2006 and 2013 had spent Rs 2.13 lakh crore, but the NDA has spent Rs 8.83 lakh crore between 2014 and 2025, he pointed out. "The Congress is creating false propaganda about the VB-G RAM-G Act, and we are ready for an open debate with documents to counter that lie. Gone were the days when people believed the lies of the Congress," Kumaraswamy said.

He questioned the essence of the Congress government for planning to hold a special session and termed it a publicity stunt. Kumaraswamy claimed that when he was the CM, the Centre had not released the Rs 800 crore wages against MGNREGA in time, and he took a decision to release it. Then, Krishna Byre Gowda was the RDPR minister, he said.

He took the Siddaramaiah government to task for confronting the Centre for its every policy, which he felt was detrimental to the state's development.

"We have used the name of Ram to establish Ram Rajya. The State Government should also take responsibility. 40% grant should be given to this project. Siddaramaiah should take responsibility for this in the state," he insisted.

New Act undermines objective of guaranteed employment: Cong neta

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Belagavi

THE Congress will launch a nationwide mass movement called 'MGNREGA Bachao Sangram' against the Union Government's decision to repeal the UPA-era rural job scheme with VB-G RAM G, AICC in-charge secretary Gopinath Palaniyappan has said.

Addressing a press conference in Belagavi on Saturday, he said the Centre's decision has diluted the very spirit of the landmark welfare legislation that guarantees employment as a legal right to rural workers. Palaniyappan recalled that the UPA government enacted MGNREGA in 2005 to ensure livelihood security for rural labourers, curb distress migration, and enhance wages. The scheme, he said, became a lifeline for women, Dalits, Adivasis, and families in border and backward regions. However, the recent changes— including renaming and restructuring the programme—have not only altered its name but also undermined its core objective of guaranteed employment, he said.

Palaniyappan said that the agitation will be conducted in phases across the country from January 10 to February 25.

The movement aims to protect workers' rights under NREGA and restore the Act in its original form, he said.

Outlining the programme, Palaniyappan said district-level press conferences, symbolic protests, one-day fasts, GP outreach programmes, ward-level dharnas, district collectorate protests, and a state-level Assembly gherao will be organised in a systematic manner. Memorandums will be submitted to district authorities demanding withdrawal of the amendments and full restoration of MGNREGA, he said.

All-India Congress Committee in-charge secretary Gopinath Palaniyappa addresses the media in Belagavi on Saturday | EXPRESS

As Cong attacks, tough task for BJP to defend VB-G RAM G Act

AN intense high-stakes political battle is brewing in Karnataka over the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission Gramin (VB G-RAM-G) Act, which replaced the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), implemented under the UPA government in 2006.

The Siddaramaiah government has taken up cudgels against the new Act, squarely accusing the Centre of depriving those dependent on rural employment schemes for work. Earlier this week, the state cabinet unanimously decided not to accept the Act and to challenge it in the court on various grounds, including "violation of the right to work and livelihood of the citizens as enshrined under Article 21 of the Constitution of India."

The government has decided to hold a two-day special session of the state legislature to discuss the implications of the new Act on the rural workforce, while the ruling party Congress will hold protests at the Gram Panchayat, taluk, and district levels. Five-kilometre padayatras in each taluk are also planned from January 26 to February 2, to drive home its message against the new Act and the Union Government.

Job creation has been one of the major planks for the Opposition's attack against the Modi government, and Congress sees the current development as an opportunity to bolster its narrative on that front. With the change in the funding pattern, the State Government has expressed difficulties in implementing the new Act. Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar even went on to say that no state would be in a position to bear 40% of the cost.

The change in the funding pattern, from a 90:10 to 60:40 Centre-State sharing arrangement, seems to be one of the major concerns expressed by the state government, which is already hard-pressed for funds. The state has also accused the Centre of enforcing it arbitrarily and hurriedly without holding consultations with the state governments. Although the employment guarantee under the new Act has been increased to 125 days, from 100 days in the MGNREGA, the state government says it is constrained by the centrally determined normative funding. In his letter to the Prime Minister, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah argued that it undermines the principle of employment guarantee, as many gram panchayats may be left without funds despite a genuine demand.

To counter the Congress's aggressive campaign – that the Union Government has snatched the rural workforce's very source of livelihood – the BJP and Janata Dal (Secular) are also planning to hold a series of outreach programmes. These include involving those who had registered under the NREGA scheme.

But, given the complexity of the issue, it would not be easy for the BJP leadership to fend off Congress's attack and convince the rural workforce that the change is in their best interest. Like how the Congress party and its government are working in tandem, the BJP, apart from its organisational strength, could involve the Centre's bureaucratic machinery at the very bottom of the structure to drive home its message. Reaching out to the target audience through means acceptable to them is a Herculean task. The cost of failure to explain the need for change could be huge, with far-reaching implications, not just on local body polls, but well beyond that.

BJP and JDS leaders reject the Congress's allegations and strongly defend the new Act.

Rural employment schemes in India have evolved over six decades from the Rural Manpower Programme (RMP) in the 1960s. The Centre's argument in favour of the latest change is that there were several gaps: expenditure not matching physical progress, use of machines in labour-intensive works, frequent bypassing of digital attendance systems and fund misappropriation. The key components of the new Act are: a guarantee of 125 days of wage employment, entitlement to unemployment allowance if work is not provided, employment linked with infrastructure supporting long-term rural development and a strong digital and social accountability mechanism. That apart, it provides for a 60-day no-work period to ensure the availability of agricultural labour during the peak sowing and harvesting season.

According to those associated with the implementation of MGNREGA, demand for employment under the scheme peaks in the months of April, May and the beginning of June, when rural labourers are left without work. Around Rs 370/day was being deposited in their accounts within 15 days.

The Congress government, which is vehemently demanding the restoration of MGNREGA, must come out with a detailed report on how the UPA scheme has benefitted the rural economy, asset creation, and slowed urban migration – if at all it has – since its implementation.

With the MGNREGA being replaced by the new Act, if the latter is not implemented, it could adversely impact rural employment across Karnataka. Besides, with Congress and the BJP gearing up for a long political – and possibly, a legal – battle, over 71 lakh people, including over 36 lakh women, who have depended on the rural employment scheme in the state, and nearly 5,000 outsourced employees working on its implementation, will face an uncertain future.

Byre Gowda requests Nirmala to restore state's fiscal balance

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

KARNATAKA Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda on Saturday urged Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to take steps to restore the fiscal balance by ensuring adequate allocation of grants for the state in the 2026-27 budget that will be presented on February 1.

Participating in a pre-budget meeting chaired by Sitharaman in New Delhi, Gowda raised the issue of the shift from demand-driven MGNREGA to allocation-based VB-G RAM G, as it has reduced effective employment days.

In order to continue to provide livelihood security to 13 crore person-days, Karnataka would require approximately Rs 2,000 crore, which is fiscally unsustainable, as the new cost-sharing (60:40) has increased the state's burden, Gowda claimed. Gowda requested reconsideration of the scheme design, restoration of demand-driven employment, and adequate uncapped Central funding.

In a letter thanking Sitharaman for providing the opportunity, Gowda highlighted that despite Karnataka being a major contributor to the national growth, it was facing shrinking fiscal space amid GST changes, rising social commitments, climate shocks, and rapid urbanisation.

Post-GST rate rationalisation, Karnataka's GST growth has fallen from 12% to 5%, resulting in a Rs 5,000 crore shortfall this year and Rs 9,000 crore annually, Gowda added.

While the Centre has offset its loss through a cess on pan masala and excise on tobacco, states lack similar flexibility, he pointed out.

Gowda requested a robust revenue protection mechanism for states and to ensure full compensation for revenue loss, similar to GST Compensation Cess. On the sharing of excise duty on tobacco and cess on pan masala, Gowda raised the issue that despite the states bearing costs on public health, enforcement, and regulation, cess proceeds remain outside the divisible pool. He requested a 50:50 sharing of excise duty on tobacco and cess on pan masala to restore fiscal equity and cooperative federalism.

He claimed that against the Central release of Rs 11,786 crore, the state has released Rs 24,598 crore, a Rs 13,004 crore in advance over and above its share to avoid disruption of Jal Jeevan Mission works.

He said that the MSP procurement is inadequate for many crops facing gluts and perishability. Karnataka proposes PDPS for 8 crops (maize, soybean, mango, chilli, onion, tomato, turmeric, and ginger) and requests an additional allocation of Rs 796 crore under PM-AASHA for timely PDPS rollout in 2026-27, he said.

He also urged that the Central contribution to Anganwadi, ASHA, and cooks/helpers be revised to Rs 8,000 from Rs 5,000 per month.

He requested to declare Upper Bhadra Project as a national project and to release Rs 5,300 crore Central assistance as announced in 2023-24 budget.

He urged that the 15th Financial Commission grants, Rs 4,044 shortfall, and disaster relief releases should be expedited that include special grants of Rs 5,495 crore and state-specific grants of Rs 6,000 crore.

Gowda further sought Central support for the Kalyana Karnataka region, as it requires additional grants beyond the state's 5,000 crore annual allocation to bridge HDI gaps.

Governor sends SC quota Bill back to State Govt

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

KARNATAKA Governor **Thawarchand Gehlot** has returned the Karnataka Scheduled Castes (sub-classification) Bill and Shree Chamundeshwari Kshetra Development Authority and Certain Other Laws (Amendment) Bill to the State Government, seeking further clarification.

A note from the Governor's office stated that the Karnataka Hate Speech and Hate Crimes (Prevention) Bill is under consideration.

The Governor's Secretariat has received 22 files regarding the approval of various bills passed by the State Legislature. "Out of 22 Bills, 19 Bills have been approved by the Governor and sent back to the government for publishing in the Official Gazette. Two Bills, the Karnataka Scheduled Castes (sub-classification) Bill and the Shree Chamundeshwari Kshetra Development Authority and Certain Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, have been returned to the Government, seeking further clarifications. Karnataka Hate Speech and Hate Crimes (Prevention) Bill is under consideration of the Governor," the note stated.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said they would meet the Governor to explain the Hate Speech bill. Responding to a question on the bill still being with the Governor, the CM told reporters that they would meet him and explain.

WILL START A MOVEMENT, SAYS SIDDU ON MALAYALAM BILL

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

CM Siddaramaiah said on Saturday that he has written to his Kerala counterpart Pinarayi Vijayan expressing concerns over the proposed Malayalam Language Bill, which mandates Malayalam as the compulsory first language even in Kannada-medium schools, particularly in the border districts such as Kasaragod. Siddaramaiah said that he would start a movement against it. In his letter to Vijayan, Siddaramaiah had stated that if the Bill is passed, Karnataka will oppose it by exercising every constitutional right available to the state, in defence of linguistic minorities and the plural spirit of the country.

Meanwhile, Karnataka Border Area Development Authority president Somanna Bevinamarada and members of the Kasargod Kannadiga Forum met Siddaramaiah and urged to take a delegation to President Droupadi Murmu appealing to exempt Kasargod from the Malayalam Language Bill.

Karnataka Border Area Development Authority president Somanna Bevinamarada submits a memorandum to CM Siddaramaiah in Mangaluru on Saturday| EXPRESS

Pinarayi rejects Siddu's concerns

T'PURAM: A day after his Karnataka counterpart Siddaramaiah raised major criticism against the Malayalam Language Bill 2025, Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan rejected the charges, saying the apprehensions do not reflect the inclusive spirit of the legislation. In a social media post, Pinarayi pointed out that the bill, passed by the Kerala Assembly, contains an unambiguous clause to safeguard the rights of linguistic minorities, particularly the Kannada and Tamil-speaking communities. Built on the Kerala Model of participation and transparency, the government resists any erosion of federal rights while remaining equally committed to protecting the linguistic identity of every citizen, he said. "Key provisions ensure that no language is imposed and linguistic freedom is fully protected. In notified areas, Tamil and Kannada speakers may continue to use their mother tongues for official correspondence with the Secretariat, heads of departments, and local offices, with replies issued in the same languages," he said.

EXPRESS READ

Siddu is a lease-based CM, says Kumaraswamy

BENGALURU: Union Minister for Steel and Heavy Industries and Janata Dal (Secular) leader HD Kumaraswamy on Saturday termed Chief Minister Siddaramaiah a "lease-based CM," who would have to step down after "his term of lease ends."

While taking a jibe at Siddaramaiah over him breaking the late chief minister D Devaraj Urs' record as the longest-serving CM, Kumaraswamy quipped that the former is "a lease-based CM who is at the mercy of Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi." "He (Siddaramaiah) is claiming that he broke Devaraja Urs' record. In the past, Urs had stood firm against Indira Gandhi and had ruled continuously for 7.5 years. Siddaramaiah is waiting for Rahul Gandhi's word to leave (the CM's post)," he said. Hitting back, Siddaramaiah said that Kumaraswamy and the BJP leaders spread lies. "Should I reply to them at all?" the CM asked. **ENS**

A 30-year-old woman allegedly died by suicide following an argument with her husband over Rs 200, which she had kept aside as part of an EMI payment. The incident occurred at her residence in Byadarahalli village, under the Nelamangala Rural police station limits. The victim Suma had reportedly hid the money from her husband, Chandrashekar. Police said Chandrashekar later found the cash and spent the amount

Tamil Nadu rowdy-sheeter held for bank officer's murder

ENS @Bengaluru

A Tamil Nadu-based rowdy-sheeter has been arrested in connection with the murder of an assistant bank manager, who was allegedly shot dead by her husband, in Magadi Road police limits on December 23. The accused has been identified as Moulesh from Salem. He has been arrested as a co-accused in the murder of Bhuvaneshwari (39). Bhuvaneshwari's husband Balamurugan (40) surrendered before the police after allegedly murdering her. During interrogation, Balamurugan revealed that he had planned to get his wife murdered by contract killers. He reportedly travelled to Bihar and procured two pistols before approaching Moulesh in Salem and offering him a contract to kill Bhuvaneshwari.

He gave Rs 1.50 lakh as advance and a pistol to Moulesh, the police said. Moulesh came to Bengaluru and kept a close watch on the victim's movements for several days. However, at the last minute, he allegedly backed out of the plan, stating that he needed more time and money. Later, Balamurugan himself decided to kill his wife. On December 23, he fired around five rounds, killing Bhuvaneshwari on the spot. A senior police officer said Moulesh, a habitual offender, was arrested by Salem police in another case. After his alleged role in the murder conspiracy came to light, police secured his custody. Probe revealed that marital discord, suspicion, and pending divorce proceedings were the reasons for Bhuvaneshwari's murder.

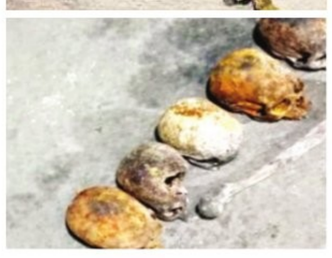
39-year-old occult influencer from N B'luru in DRI net

5 suspected human skulls, pelt resembling tiger skin, 206 pieces of monitor lizard genitals seized

BALA CHAUHAN @ Bengaluru

THE Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Bengaluru Zonal Unit arrested a 39-year-old man from Bhoopsandra in North Bengaluru under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and "seized five suspected human skulls, a human bone along with a 'customised' animal pelt resembling a tiger skin, 206 pieces of monitor lizard genitals (commonly referred to as 'hatha jodi') and 1.1 kg of dead soft corals in an operation on January 9," said informed sources on condition of anonymity.

The accused has been remanded to judicial custody. "The accused reportedly told the DRI officers that he practices occult and had taken the human skulls from a graveyard from a neighbouring state. He is a social media influencer and has around 25,000 online followers," said sources.



The seized tiger skin and human skulls

'Hatha jodi' and soft corals are protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act. According to sources, the DRI officers on specific intelligence, intercepted the accused while he was attempting to trade the protected wildlife articles. "On enquiry, he said that he was in possession of some more wildlife artefacts at his residence, while admitting that he did not possess any valid licence or authorisation to trade them. The officers recovered a suspected animal skin resembling a tiger skin, an animal paw, a tail-like structure, five human skulls, and a bone fragment. The human skeletal remains were handed over to the local police for appropriate action," said sources.

Forensic examination confirmed that several seized items like 'hatha jodi' and sea corals were wildlife derivatives and the animal skin appears to be 'altered/customised' with parts of other animals. They have been sent for forensic examination. "Hatha Jodi' is misused as an aphrodisiac. The accused admitted that he has a clientele in Bengaluru for it," added the sources. Meanwhile, the police have sent the human skulls and bone for forensic examination.

CITY SHIVERS

Bengalureans woke up to a chilly and windy Saturday morning. Throughout the day the city experienced light showers and the conditions are likely to continue for the next two days, predict weathermen | VINOD KUMAR T

Man chases woman with gun after she rejects him

BENGALURU: A 23-year-old food delivery agent was arrested after he allegedly chased a woman with a gun trying to kill her after she rejected his proposal. The woman called Namma-112 emergency helpline, and the police rushed to the spot, seized a pistol, and arrested him. The incident occurred at Mallapur village in Nelamangala Rural police limits on Saturday. The accused, Shubham (23), hailing from Bihar and staying in Nelamangala, had developed a crush on a 21-year-old nursing college student. When he expressed his love to her recently, she rejected the proposal, saying she already had a boyfriend. Angry with this, Shubham allegedly hatched a plot to kill her and got a pistol and bullets through the dark web, the police said. On Saturday morning, the girl was going in a cab to her college to collect her hall ticket. She noticed the accused chasing the vehicle with the pistol. She immediately alerted the cab driver and called Namma 112. Acting on the information, the police reached the spot promptly, seized the pistol, and arrested the accused. Police said his movements carrying the firearm on public roads were captured on CCTV cameras. Further investigation is underway. **ENS**

Speeding drunk driver jumps median, crashes car into restaurant wall

INDIRANAGAR HORROR

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

A 42-year-old inebriated man, driving a sedan at high speeds, jumped over a road divider and crashed into the wall of a restaurant after losing control of the vehicle. While two persons, including the car driver, sustained injuries, seven others standing near the restaurant and a delivery agent passing by escaped unhurt. The incident occurred near 100 Feet Road in Indiranagar in Jeevan Bima Nagar (JB Nagar) traffic police limits on Thursday night.

The incident occurred at 11.34 pm on Thursday. The driver, identified as Derrick Tony, was heading home from 18th Main Road in Indiranagar. He failed to take a left turn and instead went straight, jumped over the road divider and crashed into the restaurant wall. At the time of the accident, a group of young men and women who had finished dinner were standing outside the restaurant, who narrowly escaped unhurt. A motorist sustained minor injuries. Probe revealed that the driver was under the influence of alcohol and overspeeding.

A screengrab of the car jumping the median and hitting the restaurant wall on 100ft Road in Indiranagar on Friday night | PIC: X

5 Bihar labourers sustain burns in LPG leak fire

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

FIVE labourers from Bihar sustained burns in a suspected gas leak fire at their house in Peenya police limits on Friday. The fire broke out when one of them lit the stove to make tea unaware of the gas leak from the stove. All the five are undergoing treatment for severe burns. The injured are identified as Ansuraj Kumar, 18, Mohammed Hussain Khan, 21, Muzaffar Hussain, 19, Arbaz Alam, 26 and Rohit Choudhary, 20. They had come to the city a week ago and were working as welders. They were employed by a person identified as Dharmapal. They were provided a room on the first floor building in Chokkasandra. The incident happened on Friday morning between 6.45 am and 7 am. On Thursday night, the victims after returning home had cooked food before going to bed. On Friday morning, when Mohammed Hussain Khan lit the gas stove, the entire room caught fire. Dharmapal who was staying in the same building shifted the five injured to a hospital. The police have recorded the statements of the victims in the hospital.

Among the injured, Kumar had filed a complaint against Dharmapal for providing them with a sub-standard gas stove along with a regulator.

IN THE COURT OF THE 28th ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, MAYO HALL AT BENGALURU (CCCH No. 29)
O.S. No. 26354 of 2017

BETWEEN: SRI. HARINDRANATH. K, S/o Late H.P. Krishna Reddy, aged about 53 years, R/a #2AC-712, H.R.B.R. Layout, 1st Block, Kalyan Nagar, Bangalore- 560 043 ...PLAINTIFF

AND: SMT. K. SUCHINDRA REDDY AND OTHERS ...DEFENDANTS

COURT NOTICE
SUMMONS UNDER ORDER 5 RULE 20 (1) A OF THE CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE CODE, 1908

DEFENDANT No. 15: M/s. STAR BIRYANI, REP. BY PARTNERS MR. M MUNEER AHMED, MR. M ZAHEER AHMED AND MR. B.S. ANEES RAHMAN Registered Office at: No. 38, BTM Layout, 1st Stage, 1st Phase, Madiwalla Dollars Scheme, Bangalore-560098. Head Office at, No.5, Ground Floor, Opposite Forum Mall, Diary Circle Road, Bhuvanappa Layout, Bangalore- 560 029

WHEREAS, the Plaintiff has filed the above case against Defendants and now impleading Proposed Defendant No.15, for relief of Declaration and other consequential reliefs.

You are hereby summoned to appear before the XXVIII Addl. City Civil and Sessions Judge, Mayo Hall at Bangalore (CCCH No.29) on **09/02/2026** at **11:00 AM.**, in person or through a pleader, failing which, the application filed under Order 1 Rule 10 read with section 151 of Code of Civil Procedure, in the above suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

Take notice that, in default of your appearance on the day before mentioned, the suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

PLAINT SCHEDULE PROPERTIES

ITEM No.1: House Property No. 191. PID No. 82-24-191, Binnamangala 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560 038, measuring East to West 80 feet and North to South 50 feet, bounded on the: **East by:** Road, **West by:** Site No. 248, **North by:** Site No. 192, **South by:** Site No. 190

ITEM No.2: House Property No. 194. PID No. 82-24-194. Binnamangala 2nd Stage, Bangalore 560 038, measuring East to West 80' 6" feet and North to South 50 feet, bounded on the: **East by:** Road, **West by:** Site No. 244 & 245, **North by:** Site No. 195, **South by:** Site No. 193

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 05/01/2025.

By order of the Court, Deputy Registrar, City Civil Court, Mayo Hall Unit, at Bengaluru

Advocate for Plaintiff:
SREEVATSA ASSOCIATES
No. 50, II Stage, Indiranangar, Bangalore- 560 038.

ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ನನ್ನ ಕಕ್ಷಿದಾರರಾದ ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆಂಪರಾಜು .ಎಸ್.ಜಿ ಬಿನ್ ಲೇಟ್ ಗಂಗಾರಸಪ್ಪ .ಎಸ್.ಕೆ, ಮನೆ ನಂ. 88/2, ಶಿವನಪುರ, ದಾಸನಪುರ ಹೋಬಳಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಉತ್ತರ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-562123 ರವರು ನೀಡಿರುವ ಹೇಳಿಕೆ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಯಪಡಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ,

ಆದಾಗಿ ನನಗೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ:04-05-2005 ರಂದು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಉತ್ತರ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ದಾಸನಪುರ ಹೋಬಳಿ, ಮಾದಾವರ ಗ್ರಾಮದ, ಅಸೆಸ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ನಂ.98/1 ರಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಂಗಡಿಸಿರುವ ನಿವೇಶನಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ, 22ನೇ ನಂಬರುಳ್ಳ ಖಾಲಿ ನಿವೇಶನದ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ, ಪೂರ್ವ ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ:31 ಅಡಿಗಳು, ಉತ್ತರ ದಕ್ಷಿಣ:41 ಅಡಿಗಳು, ಒಟ್ಟು 1271 ಚದರ ಅಡಿಗಳ ಅಳತೆಯುಳ್ಳ ನಿವೇಶನವನ್ನು ಶ್ರೀ. ಟಿ. ವಾಸುದೇವಯ್ಯರವರಿಂದ ನನಗೆ ಕ್ರುದ್ರಕ್ರಯಪತ್ರದ ಮೂಲಕ ಅದನ್ನು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಉತ್ತರ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಉಪ-ನೋಂದಣಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಕಛೇರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಣಿಯಾಗಿದ್ದು, ನೋಂದಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ, ಬಿವಲ್‌ಎನ್ -1-06102/2005-06 ರಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಸಿ.ಡಿ. ನಂ. ಬಿವಲ್‌ಎನ್‌ಡಿ 174 ಆಗಿದ್ದು, ಪುಸ್ತಕ-1 ರಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಣಿಯಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಈ ಕ್ರಯಪತ್ರವನ್ನು ನಮ್ಮ ಕಕ್ಷಿದಾರರು, ದಿನಾಂಕ: 17.11.2025 ರಂದು ಮಾದನಾಯಕನಹಳ್ಳಿಯಿಂದ ಮಾದಾವರ ಸರ್ವೀಸ್ ರಸ್ತೆಗೆ ಬರುವಾಗ ಮಾರ್ಗ ಮಧ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಆಸಲಿ ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜು ಎಲ್ಲೋ ಬಿದ್ದು ಕಳೆದುಹೋಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಹುಡುಕಿದರು ಸಿಕ್ಕಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಠಾಣೆಗೆ ಇ-ಲಾಸ್ಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 28-11-2025 ರಂದು ದೂರು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಇ-ಲಾಸ್ಟ್ ರಿಪೋರ್ಟ್ ನಂ. 1929282/2025 ಆಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಈಗ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿಳಿಯ ಪಡಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಉತ್ತರ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ದಾಸನಪುರ ಹೋಬಳಿ, ಮಾದಾವರ ಗ್ರಾಮದ, ಅಸೆಸ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ನಂ.98/1 ರಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಂಗಡಿಸಿರುವ ನಿವೇಶನಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ, 22ನೇ ನಂಬರುಳ್ಳ ಖಾಲಿ ನಿವೇಶನವು ಶ್ರೀ. ಕೆಂಪರಾಜು .ಎಸ್.ಜಿ. ಹಾಗೂ ಅವರ ಧರ್ಮಪತ್ನಿಯಾದ ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ. ಮಂಜುಳ ಹಾಗೂ ಅವರ ಮಕ್ಕಳುಗಳಾದ ಆಧ್ಯಾ ಹಾಗೂ ಚಿಂತನ ರವರುಗಳು ವಾರಸ್ಸುದಾರರಾಗಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಅವರನ್ನು ಹೊರತು-ಪಡಿಸಿ ಬೇರೆ ಯಾರಿಂದಲಾದರೂ ಖರೀದಿ ಅಥವಾ ಯಾವುದೇ ತರಹ ವ್ಯವಹಾರ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದೆ ಆದಲ್ಲಿ ಶ್ರೀ. ಕೆಂಪರಾಜು .ಎಸ್.ಜಿ. ರವರಾಗಲೀ, ಅವರ ಕುಟುಂಬ ವರ್ಗದವರಾಗಲೀ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರರಾಗಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಅದರಿಂದಾಗುವ ನಷ್ಟಕ್ಕೆ ಅವರುಗಳೇ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರ-ರಾಗಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಸದರಿ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳು ಯಾರಿಗಾದರು ಸಿಕ್ಕಿದಲ್ಲಿ ಶ್ರೀ. ಕೆಂಪರಾಜು .ಎಸ್.ಜಿ ರವರಿಗೆ ಅಥವಾ ಈ ಕೆಳಗೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿರುವ ವಕೀಲರಿಗಾಗಲೀ, ಅಥವ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಠಾಣೆಗಾಗಲಿ ತಲುಪಿಸುವುದು ಎಂದು ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ತಿಳಿಯಪಡಿಸುತ್ತೇವೆ.

ಷೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್ ವಿವರ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಉತ್ತರ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ದಾಸನಪುರ ಹೋಬಳಿ, ಮಾದಾವರ ಗ್ರಾಮದ, ಅಸೆಸ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ನಂ.98/1 ರಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಂಗಡಿಸಿರುವ ನಿವೇಶನಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ, 22ನೇ ನಂಬರುಳ್ಳ ಖಾಲಿ ನಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ ಚೆಕ್ಕುಬಂದಿ:- **ಪೂರ್ವಕ್ಕೆ :** ರಸ್ತೆ **ಪಶ್ಚಿಮಕ್ಕೆ :** ಬೇರೆಯವರ ನಿವೇಶನ, **ಉತ್ತರಕ್ಕೆ :** 19ನೇ ನಂಬರ್ ನಿವೇಶನ, **ದಕ್ಷಿಣಕ್ಕೆ :** 23ನೇ ನಂಬರ್ ನಿವೇಶನ.

ಈ ಮದ್ಯೆ ಇರುವ ಪೂರ್ವ ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ : 31 ಅಡಿಗಳು, ಉತ್ತರ ದಕ್ಷಿಣ : 41 ಅಡಿಗಳು, ಒಟ್ಟು 1271 ಚದರ ಅಡಿಗಳ ಅಳತೆಯುಳ್ಳ ನಿವೇಶನ.

ಡಿ.ಎಸ್. ಸತ್ಯನಾರಾಯಣ, ವಕೀಲರು
ನಂ.33, ಬೈಲಪ್ಪನಪಾಳ್ಯ, ಮಾದಾವರ ಅಂಚೆ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಉತ್ತರ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-562162.
ಸ್ಥಳ : ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಿನಾಂಕ : 10.01.2026

KITTUR RANI CHANNAMMA RESIDENTIAL SAINIK SCHOOL FOR GIRLS,
KITTUR–591 115. DIST.: BELAGAVI
Ph No: 08288–234601/234606 Fax: 08288-287299
School Code: 45438
E-Mail:- sainikschoolkittur@gmail.com Website:-www.kittursainikschool.org

VACANCIES

(a) PGT (English): Post graduation in subject concerned with B. Ed., teaching experience from Classes X to XII in a CBSE School.

(b) TGT (Maths, Science & Hindi): Post graduation / Graduation in subject concerned with B. Ed., teaching experience from Classes VI to X in a CBSE School.

© Physical Education Teacher (Ladies only): Any Graduate with, B. P. Ed. / M. P. Ed., with teaching experience for Class VI to X in any CBSE School.

(d) Psychologist cum Counsellor (Ladies only): The candidate should have relevant degree in Counselling and experience.

(e) Lady Swimming Coach (Full time or Part-time): Secondary (Class X) with experience and National / State Certificate in swimming. Lifesaving certificate is mandatory.

(f) Horse Riding Trainer: The candidate should have minimum qualification of X Std. and experience in horse riding training to the students. Retired defense personnel preferred.

(g) Dance Teacher: Bachelor's Degree in Performing Arts / degree in any discipline with ability to dance / teach dancing.

Salary: For **(a)** to **(c)** Pay scales as per School rules, however, higher salary negotiable for deserving candidates.

Perks: Free Food and single / family accommodation available.

Please apply with recent pass port size colour photograph and copies of relevant testimonials to **The Principal Kittur Rani Channamma Residential Sainik School for Girls, Kittur-591115 Dist: Belagavi, Karnataka** post bio data or send through mail **kittursainikschool@gmail.com** Last date for receipt of applications **27.01.2026**

Sd/-
Principal
Date: 11-01-2026

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TAMIL NADU CIVIL SUPPLIES CORPORATION
HEAD OFFICE, CMRL OFFICE CAMPUS,
POONAMALLEE HIGH ROAD, KOYAMBEDU,
CHENNAI - 600 107. Ph.No. (044) 26426773. Email id.: tncsc.tn@nic.in
CIN:U15137TN1972SGC006157

E-TENDER NOTICE

NIT No. QC2/080634/2025 **Dated: 09.01.2026**

Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation invites online electronic tenders for the **"Supply of 12,000 Nos. of New Mild Steel Crates as per TNCSC Specification for use as Dunnage Material in Godowns".**

Complete E-Tender document can be viewed, downloaded and uploaded through **https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app** from **12.01.2026 to 28.01.2026.**

The bidders have to participate in online bidding only with Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) of Class-III.

Last Date for Online Submission : 28.01.2026 upto 11.00 AM
Tender Opening Date & Time : 29.01.2026 at 11.30 AM

DIPR/148/Tender/2026 **Managing Director**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that my client **Sri.H.Venkategowda**, S/o Late Muddegowda, R/at No.3, Block No.5, Near Bannur Ring Road, Manasinagar, Mysore City, has intent to purchase the under mentioned schedule property from Mr.Sanjeev Kumar Jain, aged about 61 years, S/o Mr.Sumat Prasad Jain, R/at House No.286, Patti Mundala, Near Bada Jain Mandir, Khekra Kasaba, Khekra Post, Baghpat District, Uttar Pradesh-250 101, any person/s, Bank/society/Firm or anybody having any rights, title, interest or claims by way of sale, exchange, mortgage, gift, release, trust, inheritance, banquets, possession, lease, easement sale agreement or otherwise over the schedule property of any portion thereof, they may file their objection/s along with documentary proof within 10 (Ten) days from this day to the undersigned, failing which it is deemed that there is no impediment to purchase schedule property and which shall be deemed to have been waived to all intents and purposes, my client will proceed on the basis, that there are no objections, claims/interest whatsoever in nature and it will be finalized.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of immovable land bearing Sy. No.72/1 (Old Sy. No.72/p2), measuring 39 Guntas, situated at Basthipura Village, Belagola Hobli, Srirangapatna Taluk, Mandya District and is bounded on:

East by : Property of Sy.No.72/2,
West by : Property of Sy.No.54/11 and 54/10,
North by : Property of Sy. No.71/1,
South by: Property of Sy. No.73/2.

Sd/- B.L. MANJUNATHA, Advocate & Legal Consultant,
#2961/A, 1st Main, 5th Cross, Saraswathipuram,Mysore - 570009
Mob: 9141720962

BHARATHIAR UNIVERSITY
COIMBATORE – 641 046, TAMILNADU, INDIA
I State University I Accredited With A++ Grade - 3.63 CGPA by NAAC I 26th Rank among Indian Universities by MoE-NIRF I

40th CONVOCATION NOTIFICATION

The **FORTIETH CONVOCATION** of Bharathiar University will be held on **13th February 2026.**

Last Date for Application 05.02.2026.

For details log on to website: **www.b-u.ac.in**

Date : 10.01.2026 DIPR/41/DIS/2026 **Prof.Dr.R. RAJAVEL REGISTRAR**

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
U. R. RAO SATELLITE CENTRE
CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE GROUP
HAL AIRPORT ROAD, VIMANAPURA POST, BENGALURU - 560 017.
Phone: 080 2508-4185, 4156
BRIEF TENDER NOTICES

1.On behalf of the President of India, **item-rate** tender is invited for the following work:

Description	Details
Name of work	Supply, Installation, Testing and commissioning of 225 kWp Solar Panel covered Pedestrian Pathway at URSC – ISITE Campus
E-Tender Notice	URSC/C&MG/E/C/16/2025-26 Dt. 07/01/2025
Estimated cost put to Tender	₹ 239.40 Lakhs
Period of completion in months	Eight (08) Months
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	**₹ 4,78,800/- Validity for 180 days**

2.Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting Tender (NIET) for eligibility criteria and other details in website: **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/-
Group Director, C&MG, URSC

Government of Karnataka
PUBLIC WORKS, DEPARTMENT
Office of the Executive Engineer, Chamarajanagara Division, Chamarajanagara
Phone/Fax: 08226-222027 | e-mail: eecnr@kpwd.gov.in/pwdeechngr@gmail.com

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal only)
H(Two Cover System: Section-1-Technical Bid and Section-2-Financial Bid)
Short Term Tender Notification No 27/2025-26 Dated: 07.01.2026 (Call-1 & Call-3)

Item rate tenders are invited through Kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal only on behalf of Governer of Karnataka from Eligible registered civil Contractor in KPWD in Standard Bid document **KW-1, KW-2, KW-3 & KW-4** form The Total no of works is 2, **H/A :- 5054-03-337-0-16-154 SH Bridge Works** Minimum estimated cost is Rs, 20.00 lakhs, maximum estimated cost is Rs, 1500.00 lakhs, The Total no of works is 1, **H/A :- 3054-03-102-0-01-200 SH Bridge Works** maximum estimated cost is Rs, 54.00 lakhs, The Total no of works is 1, **H/A :- 5054-03-101-0-02-132 MDR Bridge Works** maximum estimated cost is Rs, 35.00 lakhs, The Total no of works is 2, **H/A :- 3054-03-102-0-01-200 MDR Bridge Works** maximum estimated cost is Rs, 26.00 lakhs, **AND** The Total no of works is 5, **H/A :- 3054-04-337-1-10-200 MDR Maintenance Works** Minimum estimated cost is Rs, 6.00 lakhs, maximum estimated cost is Rs, 20.00 lakhs, Further changes in this Notification will be Published in Kppp.karnataka.gov.in Only. Date of events as follows:

1	Date and Time for downloading the tender document from the Kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal	From 12.01.2026 to 27.01.2026 upto 16.00 Hrs.
2	Pre-Bid Meeting Date	14.01.2026 in Division Office Meeting Hall at 11.00 AM
3	downloading the tender document from the Last Date and Time	27.01.2026 Up to 16.00 Hrs.
4	Date & Time for opening of Technical bid	28.01.2026 after 16.30 Hrs.
5	Date & Time for opening of Financial bid	29.01.2026 Morning 11.00 AM

More information can be had from the web site: **https://www.Kppp.karnataka.gov.in** & Any other details required can be obtained from office of the under signed during office hours.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer, PWD Division,
Chamarajanagar

NO: DIPR:CHANAGAR:630:2025-26

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)

Canara Bank,
ARM Branch I
2nd Floor, No. 86, Spencers Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore-560001.

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the **Symbolic** possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM Branch-1, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank,** will be sold on **31.01.2026 (10.30 AM to 11.00 AM) "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is",** for recovery of **Rs. 3,91,10,336.48/-** (Rupees Three Crore Ninety-One Lakhs Ten Thousand Three Hundred Thirty-Six and Forty-Eight Paisa only) as on 07.01.2026 with further interest and cost thereon due to the **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank** from **1. Sri H J RAJESH GOWDA** S/o. JAVARE GOWDA, Municipal No. 14 (Old No. 1778) P.I.D No 34-56-14, 9th Cross Road, 6th Main Road, RPC Layout (Hampinagar) B.B.M.P. Ward No. 133, Bengaluru-560040, **2. Smt. MANGALA .C** W/o. RAJESH GOWADA, Muncipal No. 14 (Old No. 1778) P.I.D No 34-56-14, 9th Cross Road, 6th Main Road, RPC Layout (Hampinagar) B.B.M.P. Ward No. 133, Bengaluru-560040. **3. KANGANNHALLI BETTIAH RAMESH,** No. 1123/17, 10th D Cross, West of Chord Road, Maha Laxmi Puram, Bengaluru-560086.

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of E-Wallet of **M/s. PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **30.01.2026, 5.00 pm** **(Rs. in lacs)**

Lot	Description of the immovable/ movable assets	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental value Rs.
1	All that piece and parcel of bearing number 1778, situated at railway pipe line scheme, Bangalore now comes under administrative jurisdiction of BBMP, Ward no 34-RPC Layout, New Muncipal Number 14, 9th Cross Road, Hampinagara Bengaluru with PID Number 34-56-14 Measuring East to West 60 Feet , North to south, 40 FEET Totally 2400 sq feet. **Boundaries : East :** Road, **West :** Site Number 1763, **North :** Site Number 1779, **South :** Site Number 1777.	506.00	50.60	1.00

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website **(www.canarabank.com)** or **E-Wallet of M/s. PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, **Canara Bank, Ph. No. 080-25310066, 9483544116 and 9966397756,** during office hours on any working day.

Date: 08.01.2026
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Offier
Canara Bank

SMARTADS

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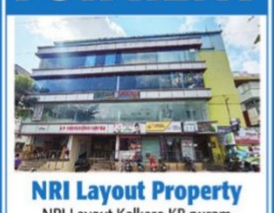
FOR SALE
Office Building **@Richmond Town**
Build-Up Area: 15000 Sq.ft.
Individual Office
Building For Sale. Plot area : 3700 sqft. Built-up Area: 15000 sqft. (G + 4 Flr),

JP NAGAR
3rd Phase Premium Plot For Sale 60 X 90 - 5400 Sqft - 5400 Sqft South Facing Plot For Sale In Prime Location.

Contact - KP REALTY
7899930039 Brokers Excuse.

MANYATHA RESIDENCY
NAGWARA
PREMIUM BDA PLOT
50X80, 45x60
FOR SALE
@RS.22K/SQFT.
West Facing Plot Available for Sale. Behind MANYATA TECH PARK.
CONTACT KP REALTY
7899930039

FOR RENT



NRI Layout Property
NRI Layout Kalkere KR puram Bangalore Basement parking 4500 sqft G+ 3rd Floors Each Floor 4500 Sqft.

Kittaganur Property
- COMMERCIAL - PLACES for Rent @ Kittaganur KR Puram - Bangalore G floor 8000 sqft - 1st floor 8500 sqft

Call: **9342529020**
8880929020

WANTED
Factory Canteen and Hotel in Peenya, Bangalore, has South and North Indian style cooks and Hotel-Receptionist (M/F) and MANAGER
Food and lodging facilities are available.
Contact:
8970872429,9512799918, 9591810812, 9008408811

Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot on Saturday presided over the 53rd Annual General Meeting of the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC) and praised the institution's contributions to social justice, economic development and evidence-based policy-making over the past five decades. Gehlot commended ISEC's support to the Karnataka government in policy formulation, programme evaluation and welfare initiatives

13 years later, PMAY houses remain a distant dream for over 1,000 families

YATHIRAJU @ Bengaluru

EVEN after a lapse of 13 years, the project to build 1,336 houses and ensure a pucca house for eligible urban households under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) has not come to fruition at BGS Layout in the Kanakapura City Municipal Council limits, within the Kanakapura Assembly Constituency, represented by Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar.

This came to light when Upa Lokayukta Justice KN Phaneendra made a surprise visit to Kanakapura town, on December 19. He said only a few houses have been completed though the construction began in 2013. The half-built houses are in a dilapidated condition. Weeds and bushes grow around them. Only a few street lights are there. The people who are living in completed houses are in fear, as snakes are common.

He said there is no drainage system, sewage clogging, and foul smell emanating from the solid waste management unit. Children and elderly people are falling ill frequently because of flies swarming and mosquitoes breeding, the locals told Upa Lokayukta. When he questioned about the delay in project implementation, the officials informed him that the Rajiv Gandhi Rural Housing Corporation Limited entrusted the project of building 1,336 houses to Karnataka State Habitat Centre (KSHC). It issued a work order in 2013 to complete the houses within 6 months. The cost of each house was estimated at Rs 1,80 lakh. The State and Centre have to release Rs 75,000 each,

The half-built houses are in a dilapidated condition, with weeds and bushes growing around them

doors, and tiles for houses instead of iron windows, doors, and a cement floor. It was resolved to collect Rs 63,000 each from the beneficiary, instead of Rs 35,000. Subsequently, a work order was issued to be completed within 10 months, but to date, the project has not been completed. Noting that not handing over the houses to the needy is a violation of the right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution and also amounts to maladministration and dereliction of duty on the part of the Commissioner Srinivasa, CMC, and Project Director Supreeth, KSHC, under Section 2(10) of the Karnataka Lokayukta Act, the Upa Lokayukta registered the case against them, sought explanation for delay and solution to address the issue in a time-bound manner.

He also marked a copy to the Housing Minister Zameer Ahmed Khan, Urban Development Minister Suresh B S, and District In-Charge Minister Ramalinga Reddy and Deputy Commissioner of Bengaluru South, Managing Director, RGHCL, for necessary action.

and the beneficiary has to bear Rs 30,000. Accordingly, construction of 419 houses began.

The Municipal Council issued a work order to KSHC in 2018 for the construction of the remaining 917 houses. The cost of each unit was Rs 3.05 lakh. Of which, Rs 1.50 lakh has to be released by the Centre, Rs 1.20 lakh by the State and Rs 35,000 by the beneficiary. However, some beneficiaries are not ready to bear their share of the money to build houses.

Meanwhile, the local MLA decided to use wooden windows,

How to eliminate addiction to drinks, drugs, gambling? This Koppal village goes 'cheeky'

RAGHOTTAM KOPPAR @ Koppal

RESIDENTS of a Koppal village have resolved this year to rid their village of addiction to alcohol, drugs, gambling and tobacco. How? By letting all the residents slap those indulging in such vices and also by imposing a fine for every violation.

Recently, the villagers of Kuntoji met at Durgadevi temple and decided that the addicts would be slapped first physically and then slapped with a fine of Rs 25,000 for selling or consuming liquor, chewing gutka or playing matka.

At the meeting, the villagers also discussed problems of family conflicts, financial difficulties, debt and the future of the younger generation because of these addictions.

Some suggested that they should follow the rule book of tribal villagers from Indravelli taluk in Adilabad district of Telangana, and everyone agreed. There, this type of punishment was started in 2018 after the villagers witnessed many quarrels and financial crises because of rampant alcoholism.

Devappa Kamalapur, a resident of Koppal who visited Kuntoji, said, "I attended the meeting when I was there on personal work. The villagers first shared how they have suffered because of these bad habits. They concluded that these vices are harming families and the village environment too. Some members took the example of the village in Telangana and decided on the slapping punishment and the fine. The decision was taken unanimously. This is a good initiative and this should become a role model for others too."

An official from the Gangavathi Taluk Panchayat said, "We heard about it, but have not received any official communication. We will look into it. This is a good decision."

Yuva Nidhi response an eye-opener, says VTU VC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

FOLLOWING the news reports of the highest number of engineering students registering for Yuva Nidhi Guarantee Scheme this year, Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) Vice-Chancellor **Dr S Vidyashankar** said it is time professors introspected about the kind of education being providing to the state's youth.

"Professors must introspect about the kind of education we are providing. Reduce the creation of unemployed youth," he said.

Inaugurating the Students' Induction Programme (SIP) organised at Global Academy of Technology, he said, "It is truly disappointing that 48,000 engineering students have registered for Yuva nidhi. This raises questions about the education we are imparting. Wake up at least now – provide education that meets industry expectations. Skill-based education must be our goal. Bring down the number of 48,000 students to zero."

The VC said, "Understand the truth that only when students take admission you will have work. Treat students with affection. Implement VTU's programmes keeping students' welfare in mind. Give greater importance to innovation. When I became Vice-Chancellor, 88,000 students had taken admission. Today, that number has reached 1.12 lakh."

On allegations regarding paying money for internships, he said, "There have been accusations that the VTU is trying to extract money from students in the name of internships. We have no necessity to make money. The university is financially strong. We are determined to stop illegal practices under the guise of internships. Our intention is that everyone should obtain internships only through VTU."

'Environmental toxins, mutations behind 80% of Parkinson's cases'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Nobel Laureate Prof Randy Schekman said, "It's not simply because of a better diagnosis. It may be because of environmental toxins and gene mutations. It is likely that 80% of Parkinson's patients arise by some sporadic process, which I am guessing is likely to turn out to be some environmental toxin."

He said China may be particularly bad in controlling those toxins, but other countries will be also affected. "Over half of a set of cells in the brain called the Dopaminergic neurons that congregate in the midbrain section called the substantia nigra die in Parkinson's patients," he said.

As the disease progresses, patients lose sense of smell. It can persist for years before the disease manifests. He said his wife Nancy Walls also had lost sense of smell and she was diagnosed with the disease when she was 44 years old. "But out of this came something quite miraculous. I was asked by the Sergey Brin Family Foundation if I would help develop an international programme of basic research on Parkinson's," he said.

On his ongoing research for over seven years, he said, "We identified 35 teams, 163 laboratories around the world, a well-balanced team with early career investigators. The funds were distributed to 80 institutions in 14 countries around the world."

The foundation has now committed over a billion dollars for the next five years. Schekman said, "When I walk away from this programme in five years, I will leave behind, with some confidence, breakthroughs that will make a difference in the lives of those afflicted."

Infosys Prize 2025 was given to six awardees—Nikhil Agarwal of Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Economics), Sushant Sachdeva of University of Toronto (Engineering and Computer Science), Andrew Ollett of University of Chicago (Humanities and Social Sciences), Anjana Badrinarayanan of National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bengaluru, (Life Sciences), Sabyasachi Mukherjee of Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai (Mathematical Sciences), and Karthish Manthiram of California Institute of Technology (Physical Sciences). The winners were awarded with a 50 gm gold medal and $1,00,000 each.

यूनियन बैंक Union Bank of India

UNION BANK OF INDIA
(AGovernment of India Undertaking)

E- AUCTION SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for 30 days Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable / movable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of **Union Bank of India** (secured Creditor) will be sold on **"As is where", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is"** on the dates mentioned below for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to **Union Bank of India** from the below mentioned Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s)
The Reserve Price and Earnest Money Deposits are also mentioned hereunder.

Union Bank of India, Sarjapur Road Branch
Address At:No.211, Greenglen Layout, Sarjapur Outer Ring Road, Bellandur,Bangalore-560103,
Mail Id :Ubin0914841@Unionbankofindia.bank.in

1. Name and Address of the Borrower & Co Borrower & Guarantor:
1.Mr. M Harikrishnama Rao, Flat no.402, 4th Floor, BM Reveria Apartment, Kundanahalli,Near RyanInternational School, Bangalore – 560 037, **2. Mrs. A Prasanthi,** W/o M Hariskrishnama Rao,Flat no.402, 4th Floor, BM Reveria Apartment, Kundanahalli,Near Ryan International School, Bangalore – 560 037.
Amount Due : Rs. 15,87,736.49/- (Rupees FifteenLakhsEighty SevenThousand Seven Hundred Thirty Six Paise Forty Nineonly) as on 31-12-2025 with further interest, cost and expenses
Description of the Secured Assets: Schedule-A: Residential Flat No.402, 4th Floor, A Block, "BM Reveira Apartment" at Site No.s 30,31,36,37,38,39 & 40, BBMP Katha No.419/1, Old Katha No.419/82 & 410/87, in Sy no.82, 87 & 88, Kundanahalli, Near Rayan International School, KR Puram Hobli, Bengaluru – 560 037. East by : Road and private property, West by : Road, North by : Road and private property, South by : Private property

Reserve Price:Rs.55,00,000/- (Rupees Fifty Five Lakh only)
EMD: Rs.5,50,000/-
(Rupees Fifty Lakh Fifty Thousand only)

For Auction related queries contact **Union Bank of India,** Sarjapur Road Branch, **Contact No: 9108052609**

Union Bank of India, Nrupathunga Road Branch
#14/3, Nripathunga Road, Rashtrothana Parishad Building, Bengaluru
E-mail: ubin0901750@unionbankofindia.bank

1. Name and Address of the Borrower & Co Borrower & Guarantor:
1.M/s BVR Tech and Engineers (Proprietor: Mr. K Boopalan), No.53, 7th Main Road, Puttenahalli,7th phase, J P Nagar, Bangalore-560078, **Guarantors: 1.Mrs. Vidya K Raju,** W/o Mr. K Boopalan,No.53,7th Main Road, Puttenahalli, 7th phase, J P Nagar, Bangalore-560078, **2.Mr. K Ramachandra Raju,** R/o No.131,7th cross, VI Phase, K R Layout, J P Nagar, Bengaluru 560078
Amount Due :Rs.2,86,94,923.73(Rupees Two Crore Eighty Six Lakh Ninety Four Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Three Paise Seventy Three only) as on 05-01-2026 with further interest, cost and expenses
Description of the Secured Assets:
Property No. 1. Residential property bearing 53/7 CMC Khata No.129,7th Main, Khata 492, Ward 187, Puttenahalli, J P Nagar, 7th Phase, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South-560078 measuring East to West 30 feet, North to South 40 feet, extent of site 1200 Sq.ft and ground , first and second floor with plinth area 1199 Sq.ft owned by Mr. K Boopalan and bounded as follows: East by :Property No.52, West by : Property No.54, North by : Property No.41, South by : 25 feet road.

Reserve Price:Rs.1,88,98,000/-
(Rupees One Crore Eighty Eight Lakh Ninety Eight Thousand Only)
EMD: Rs.18,89,800/-
(Rupees Eighteen Lakh Eighty Nine Thousand Eight Hudnred only)

Property No. 2. EM of residential vacant site No.254, Khata No.547/219/38/254, Sy No. 38/2 and 38/3 in the Bricks and Boundaries Layout, Ramachanahalli village, Property ID 150200100300400559, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore admeasuring 2400 Sq.ft, East to West 60 feet, North to South 40 feet and owned by Mr. K Boopalan and bounded as follows: East by :60 feet road, West by : Site No.243, North by : Site No.253,South by : Site No.255

Reserve Price:Rs.72,00,000/- (Rupees Seventy Two Lakh Only)
EMD: Rs.7,20,000/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Twenty Thousand only)

Property No. 3.EM of residential vacant site No.255, Khata No.548/219/38/255, Sy No. 38/2 and 38/3 in the Bricks and Boundaries Layout, Ramachanahalli village, Property ID 150200100300400559, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore admeasuring 2400 Sq.ft, East to West 60 feet, North to South 40 feet and owned by Mr. K Boopalan and bounded as follows:East by :60 feet road,West by : Site No.242, North by :Site No.254, South by : Site No.256.

Reserve Price:Rs.72,00,000/- (Rupees Seventy Two Lakh Only)
EMD: Rs.7,20,000/- (Rupees Seven Lakh Twenty Thousand only)

For Auction related queries contact **Union Bank of India,** Nrupathunga Road Branch, **Contact No: 9324801752**

Date and Time of E-auction 13.02.2026 (12:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.)
(with 10 min unlimited auto extensions)
Last Date for Submission of EMD : On or before commencement of e-auction E-auction website- https://baanknet.com

For Detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the link provided in **https://baanknet.com and http://www.unionbankof india.co.in**
The online E- auction will be held through website:https://baanknet.com

Date: 06.01.2026
Place: Bangalore
Sd/- Authorised Officer
Union Bank of India

RAIL COACH FACTORY, KAPURTHALA

PCMM, RCF on behalf of President of India invites On-line bids for following items:-

Sr. No.	Tender No. & Due Date	Description	Qty. (Nos./Sets)	EMD (₹)
1.	14251231A 02/02/2026	Thermal Insulation	4621 Sqm.	1,07,750/-
2.	02261006 09/02/2026	Harness of under Frame and Roof arrangement for LHB EOG SCN Non AC Coaches for Amrit Bharat Rake	00	11,79,880/-
3.	17261001 05/02/2026	Set of FRP Ceiling sheet Assemblies for LHB Chair Car	11 Set	20,00,000/-
		Set of Ceiling sheet Assemblies for LHB AC 2T Coaches	11 Set	
		Set of FRP roof panels for LHB SLR HOG Coaches (31-Seater)	118 Set	
		Set of FRP Ceiling Panels for LHB GS Coaches	53 Set	
		Set of Ceiling Sheet for LHB First AC Coaches	12 Set	
		Set of FRP Ceiling Sheet Assemblies for LHB AC Hot Buffet High Heating Capacity Coaches	59 Set	
		Set of Ceiling Sheet for LHB SCN Coaches	45 Set	
4.	17261004 02/02/2026	FRP Modular Toilet Pre-Assembled for LHB AC 2nd Class Chair Car Coaches	54 set	20,00,000/-
		FRP Modular Toilet (Pre-Assembled) for LHB Hot Buffet Car Coaches	59 Set	
		FRP Modular Toilet (Pre-Assembled) for LHB AC 3Tier Coaches	46 Set	
		FRP Modular Toilet for LHB First AC Coaches	21 Set	
5.	17261006 02/02/2026	Lavatory Module for LHB Power Car Coaches	79 set	50,00,000/-
		FRP Modular Toilet Pre-Assembled for LHB Non AC Chair Car Coaches	124 Set	
		FRP Modular Toilet (Pre-Assembled) for LHB SLR HOG Coaches	118 Set	
		FRP Modular Toilet (Pre-Assembled) for LHB GS Coaches	243 Set	
		FRP Modular Toilet (Pre-Assembled) for LHB SCN Coaches	225 Set	
6.	17251704 04/02/2026	Seats with MS corrugated sheet for guard room for LHB power Car USBRL Coaches	09 set	6,09,770/-
		Set of seat and Berth for LHB AC Hot Buffet Coaches	22 set	
		Seat and Berth set including Attendant Berth with corrugated MS sheet for LHB FAC Coach	18 set	
		Set of Seat and Berth with MS corrugated sheet suitable with SS Pillars for LHB AC2T Coach	16 set	
7.	17251698 04/02/2026	Set of Seat and Berth for LHB SLR HOG Coaches (31 Seater)	107 set	20,00,000/-
		Set of Seats & Berths for LHB GS Coaches	183 set	
		Set of Seats & Berths for LHB SCN Coaches	325 set	
		Set of Seats & Berths for LHB AC 3Tier Coaches	45 set	
8.	01251449 09/02/2026	Set of Control Arms (Finished) for LHB Bogies	1423 Set	20,00,000/-
9.	05252007 05/02/2026	Door Frame Assembly	1228 Nos.	5,30,350/-
10.	02251594 02/02/2026	Switch Plate Assembly	393 Set	2,56,920/-
11.	02251593 06/02/2026	Switch Plate Assembly	525 Set	2,19,480/-
12.	05261004 10/02/2026	Body side Sliding Door	1110 Sets	20,00,000/-

1. For details and making On-line tenders, visit Website **http://ireps.gov.in.** Drawings/ specifications, wherever required can be downloaded from RCF Website **http://www.rcf.indianrailways.gov.in.** Class IIIb digital signature certificate required for on-line bidding, can be obtained from licensed certifying agencies listed at **http://www.cce.gov.in.** 2. Tenders will close at 14.25 Hrs. on due date and will be opened at 14.30 Hrs. Tenders Sr. No.1 to 7 will be opened at RCF Kapurthala and Sr. No. 8 to 12 will be opened at Tilak Bridge, New Delhi. 3. For queries, contact IREPS Helpdesk at 011-24102855, 011-24105180 or RCF helpdesk at 011-23378658.
Note: GST Number of RCF is 03AAAGM0289C1ZT. All the suppliers are advised to quote this in dispatch documents for the supplies made by them.

PCMM

CORRIGENDUM

The following amendment is authorized against **(1)** Tender No. **17241346A** due on 08.01.2026 for procurement of **Supply & Installation of One Rake Set of Layout of IC Door for Trainset Coaches** Due date to be read as 23.01.2026 instead of 08.01.2026. **(2)** Tender No. **17251398** due on 10.01.2026 for procurement of **Supply, Installation, Commissioning Testing & Camp of Automatic Fire/Smoke Detection System for MEMU/ EMU/ DEMU Rake.** Due date to be read as 19.01.2026 instead of 10.01.2026. **(3)** Tender No. **17251268** due on 13.01.2026 for procurement of **Automatic Fire/Smoke Detection System For LHB Non AC Coaches including CAMC for 6 years.** Due date to be read as 23.01.2026 instead of 13.01.2026. **(4)** Tender No. **17241537A** due on 13.01.2026 for procurement of **Design, Supply, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of aspiration type Automatic Smoke/Fire Detection System in Rake Form for Non AC Amrit Bharat Trains as per RDSO Specification RDSO/2008/CG-04 REV-06 with ICF Annexure 'A' Dated 16.07.2024** Due date to be read as 20.01.2026 instead of 13.01.2026. All other terms and conditions will remain the same.

PCMM

R.O. No.: 120-S/2025-26 **Dated: 10.01.2026**

यूनियन बैंक Union Bank of India

UNION BANK OF INDIA
(AGovernment of India Undertaking)
HAL II STAGE BRANCH
Address: Indira Nagar, No.548, Shyam Complex, CMH Road, Opp. Motherhood Hospital, HAL 2nd Stage, Indiranagar, Bangalore-560038
E mail : ubin0903981@unionbankofindia.bank.in

E- AUCTION SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for 15 days Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable / movable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of **Union Bank of India** (secured Creditor) will be sold on **"As is where", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is"** on the dates mentioned below for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to **Union Bank of India** from the below mentioned Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s)
The Reserve Price and Earnest Money Deposits are also mentioned hereunder.

1. Name and Address of the Borrower & Co Borrower & Guarantor:
1.Late Mr. Deepak Rajan S. No.88, First Floor, HAL 2nd Stage, Indiranagar, Doopanahalli, Bangalore-560008, **2. Late Mrs. Vani Shree Rajan,** No.88, First Floor, HAL 2nd Stage, Indiranagar, Doopanahalli, Bangalore-560008 Both No.1 & 2 borrowers are deceased and represented by their legal heirs viz., 3(a) Minor Master Gaourav Rajan D (b) Minor Ms. Tanaya Rajan, Both are represented by and through their defacto guardian and Mother's, Mother: Mrs. Rathnamma w/o Govindappa, 51/2, near Mutyalamma Temple, Doopanahalli, Indra Nagar, HAL 2nd Stage, Bangalore, Karnataka-560008
Amount Due :Rs. 14,78,618.66/- (Rupees Fourteen Lakh Seventy Eight Thousand Six Hundred Eighteen Paise Sixty Six only) as on 31-12-2025 with further interest, cost and expenses
Description of Property: All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Flat No.B-011, Khatha No.258, Assessment No.42/1/78-T-2 B011, Ground Floor, Janadhar Shubha, Tower-2 in Survey No.s 39/1,39/2,40/3 and 42/1 M. Medahalli, Anekal-Attibele Road, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and measuring with a super built up area of 400 Sq.ft and undivided share of 195 Sq.ft and bounded as follows:
East by :Land in Survey No.41, West by : Road(Anekal-Attibele Road)
North by :Mayasandra Gadi, South by : Land in Survey No 43

Reserve Price:Rs.14,50,000/-
(Rupees Fourteen Lakh Fifty Thousand Only)
EMD: Rs.1,45,000/-
(Rupees One Lakh Forty Five Thousand Only)

For Auction related queries contact Union Bank of India, **HAL II STAGE BRANCH , Contact No:9036544652**

Date and Time of E-auction 28.01.2026 (11.00 a.m. to 5:00 P.M.)
(with 10 min unlimited auto extensions)
Last Date for Submission of EMD : On or before commencement of e-auction
E-auction website- https://baanknet.com

For Detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the link provided in https://baanknet.com and http://www.unionbankof india.co.in
The online E- auction will be held through website:https://baanknet.com

Date: 06.01.2026
Place: Bangalore
Sd/-
Authorised Officer
Union Bank of India

PUBLIC NOTICE
(LOSS OF ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS)

The General Public are hereby notified by this public notice that my client by name MADHURI DAS W/o Soumya Shanker Mukherjee, Aged about 50 years, R/o House No.96, Eagle Ridge Layout, Westend Drive, OPP. Begur-Koppa Road, Bangalore South Taluk Bangalore-560068 (Aadhaar No.2204 5413 0888). has lost the original Registered Sale deed dated.30.09.2009 vide Document No.BGR-1-01696/2009-10, of Book-1, Stored in C.D.No.BGRD26, which was registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Begur, Bangalore Urban District, Xerox Copy of the General Power of Attorney and Possession Transfer Certificate, Khatha Certificate and other revenue Documents in respect of property bearing site No.97, Formed out of Converted property bearing Sy.No.11, Situated at Kammanahally II Phase, Bannerghatta Road, formed by the Customs & Central Excise Housing Building Co-Operative Society Ltd, Situated at Kammanahally Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South (46+42)/2 Feet in all measuring to an extent of 1760 Sq. Ft, on 06.01.2026 in her house at the address mentioned above and lodged a e-lost complaint to this effect on 10.01.2026 to the concerned police station. Any finder of the said original and Xerox Copies of the above said documents may kindly hand over to me or to my client in the address mentioned above.

M. ANANDA, Advocate
Roll No.KAR 1007/95. No.1431, Ground Floor, D' Souza Building, Begur Main Road, Near Sub-Registrar's Office, Begur, Bangalore-560114. Mob.9845343337.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the General Public that my client **SMT. P.H. VEENA,** Age 43 years, W/o P.M. Harish, R/at: Puttasandra Village, Paataganahalli Post, Koratagere Taluk, is the absolute owner of the Site No.6 Khatha No.633/6, Property No. 1525090901901320206, situated at Uridigere Village & Hobli, Tumkur Taluk, measuring E-W : 30 ft. & N-S : 40 ft. the same acquired through a registered sale deed dt:20-01-2020, Document No. 16889/2019-20, Book-I, CD No. 1138, registered at Sub-Registrar's Office Tumkur. On 09-01-2026 at Bangalore Majestic Bus Stand, I have lost original Sale Deed dt:24-02-2016, Document No. 21285/2015-16, Book-I, CD No. TMKD661, registered at SRO Tumkur. In spite of her best efforts, she could not trace the said Original Sale Deed. It is requested to the General Public that any person finding the said document, may kindly hand over to the undersigned at the below mentioned address within **7 days** from the date of issue of this Public Notice, finder will be suitably rewarded. In this regard my clients have already lodged an online Police Complaint on 10-01-2026, vide Lost Report No.2002717/2026. It is hereby declared that my client has not pledged said document nor seized by any authority it is informed the general public that, not to misuse the said document to make any illegal transaction and If any transaction entered into by anybody in respect of the above said property based on the said document, the same would be illegal and does not confer any valid right or title on the property and also not binding on our client.

SANJAY .Y.M, Advocate
Off : No. 26/9, Opp. 2nd Floor, Om Building 3rd Main, 4th Cross, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560010. Mob. : 8971114722
Place: Bangalore Date: 10-01-2026

Shivamogga – Bhadravathi Urban Development Authority, Shivamogga

Commercial Complex, 100 feet road, Vinobanagar, Shivamogga-577204. Phone: 08182-249867, 249280
website: www.shivamogga.uda.gov.in

No.: SUDA/T.S./Tender/14/2025-26 Date: 08.01.2026

KPPP Portal Tender Notice

Itwmwar Tender is invited from the undersigned as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999, Rules 2000, subject to conditions of Standard Tender Document K.W - 4 Sections from eligible Civil Contractors of PWD registered in KPP Portal for 07 No. of works. Eligible contractors can participate in the Tender through KPP Portal http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Eligibility details for contractors as per clause – 3 of information note and schedule have been published in KPP Portal. For further information related to KPP Portal contact Help Desk No. 080-804601000 & 8068948777. Further details can be obtained by contacting the Assistant Executive Engineer of the Authority between 3.30 PM and 5.30 PM on working days of the Office.

Sd/- (Vishwanath P. Mudajji)
Commissioner,
Sd/- (H.S. Sundaresh B.E)
Chairman,
Shivamogga – Bhadravathi Urban Development Authority, Shivamogga.

DIPR/smg/ksmca/25-26/72/01/1584

All the news. In just a click. Log to www.newindianexpress.com | THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

Telangana School Education department once again exempted non-Telugu speaking students from studying Telugu as a compulsory subject, offering relief to several students and parents. According to a recent memo, Telugu will not be implemented for class 10 students during the academic year

TN's new pension scheme effective from Jan 1, 2026

TAPS will become operational after completion of statutory steps

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Chennai

GIVING effect to the announcement made by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin last week about the Tamil Nadu Assured Pension Scheme (TAPS), the state government on Saturday issued an order to implement the scheme from January 1, 2026.

As per the government order, TAPS will become operational after the notification of rules and completion of statutory norms and accounting procedures. The order, however, does not specify when these procedures will be completed.

Importantly, the state government has sought to also extend TAPS to employees recruited under the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS). Employees who joined service under CPS and retire on or after January 1, 2026, will be covered under TAPS, subject to rules to be notified. Those who were in service before January 1, 2026, will be given an option at the time of retirement to choose between TAPS or the benefits equivalent to CPS. Such employees will also be allowed to commute a portion

of their pension, subject to conditions to be laid down.

Further, employees who retired under CPS prior to the rollout of TAPS will be granted a special compassionate pension, proportionate to their length of service. The scheme also assures a minimum pension, the quantum of which will be prescribed later, and permits commutation of a portion of pension under specified conditions.

As already promised by the CM, the scheme promises an assured monthly pension equal to 50% of the last-drawn salary, calculated on basic pay plus dearness allowance (DA). The employees will contribute 10% of their monthly salary, while the additional financial commitment required to ensure the assured pension will be fully borne by the state. Pensioners and family pensioners under TAPS will also be eligible for DA revisions on a par with serving government employees, addressing one of the key criticisms of CPS.

In the event of a pensioner's death, the family pension at 60% of the last pension drawn will be paid to eligible dependents. The scheme also provides for gratuity proportional to qualifying service, subject to a maximum ceiling of ₹25 lakh, upon retirement or death while in service.

The order further states that all employees covered under TAPS, including those who initially joined service under CPS but are subsequently brought under TAPS and opt for its benefits at retirement, will be entitled to a minimum pension, the quantum of which will be prescribed separately.

It may be noted that TAPS has been devised after a detailed study by a high-level committee chaired by senior IAS officer Gagandeep Singh Bedi, which examined the Old Pension Scheme, CPS and the Unified Pension Scheme were notified by the union government in 2025.

9-seater plane crash-lands in Odisha, 6 survive with injuries

Four passengers and two pilots had a miraculous escape when a nine-seater commercial aircraft of IndiaOne Air crash-landed on an open field at Gudiatola near Jalda, close to Rourkela on Saturday afternoon. The flight was on its way from Bhubaneswar to Rourkela when the mishap took place. The passengers and crew escaped with injuries after pilots of the Cessna Grand C208B aircraft managed to force land it on an isolated field, barely 15 km to 20 km from Rourkela. The aircraft suffered damage to its front and nose. Locals rushed to the landing site, assisted the fire services personnel from Rourkela to evacuate the trapped passengers and crew members and prevent further danger by stopping plane's oil leakage with application of foam. The Director General of Civil Aviation, in its statement, said that the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau has been asked to investigate into the mishap. The pilots along with the passengers Sunil Agarwal, Sabita Agarwal, Sushant Biswal and Anita Sahu have been admitted to hospitals in Rourkela. **ENS**

Law and order key for tourism to flourish: CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Mangaluru

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah on Saturday said maintenance of law and order is fundamental for tourism to flourish and welcomed the restoration of peace in Dakshina Kannada district, calling it a positive sign for the region's development.

In his address at the valedictory session of the Coastal Karnataka Tourism Conclave–2026 in the coastal city, he cautioned that no individual or group should take the law into their hands in the name of religion or caste.

The CM said patriotism cannot grow by pitting one religion against another, noting that all religions advocate love and harmony, not hatred. He urged people to follow the ideals of poet Kuvempu's vision of "Sarvajanangada Shantiya Thota" – a garden of peace for all communities – to ensure social stability.

Promising investors the government's commitment, Siddaramaiah described coastal Karnataka as one of the most suitable regions for investment, highlighting Mangaluru's strengths in education, banking and healthcare. Referring to the entrepreneurial and adventurous spirit of the people, he said many from the region work in the Middle East and Europe and urged them to invest back home to create jobs. He added that the government would continue to provide all support to investors.

The CM acknowledged that Kerala is currently ahead of Karnataka in tourism but said coastal Karnataka is not lacking in resources or attractions. "The difference lies in interest and focus, which we are now addressing," he said, thanking investors who have already come forward.

He added the government has introduced the 2024–29 tourism policy to tap the vast potential of coastal districts and admitted that the state had failed to fully utilise its 320km coastline so far. Emphasising the region's strong performance in literacy and tax contribution – with Dakshina Kannada ranking second only to Bengaluru – he said tourism development could help Karnataka overtake Maharashtra. He also expressed concern over students coming from abroad to study in the region while their local counterparts leaving the country. He called it a regrettable situation and noted that coastal Karnataka at present has not a single operational five-star hotel.

CM Siddaramaiah tries his hands at golf after inaugurating a golf club in Mangaluru on Saturday

Kannada writer Asha Raghu found dead

ENS @Bengaluru

BENGALURU-based Kannada publisher and writer, **Asha Raghu** (46), was found dead at her residence in Malleswaram police station limits on Saturday.

Raghu was a noted novelist who authored several acclaimed works, including Aavarta, Gata, Maaye and Chittranga. She had also worked in the television industry as a dialogue writer and assistant director. Asha was a recipient of the Karnataka Sahitya Academy Award and the Sahityamrutha Saraswathi title. Police said Asha is survived by her daughter. Her husband, K C Raghu, passed away two years ago, and it is suspected that she may have been battling depression. On Saturday, when she did not respond for a prolonged period, family members broke open the door and found her unresponsive. A case of unnatural death has been registered at the Malleswaram police station. Police said the exact circumstances leading to her death are yet to be ascertained, and no note was found.

PSLV launch: ISRO chairman offers prayers at Tirupati

BOSKY KHANNA @ Bengaluru

THE Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman V Narayanan visited Tirupati Temple on Saturday ahead of the launch of the PSLV-C62 which will deploy the EOS-N1 also called as Anvesh, manufactured by Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) in space. The launch of the satellite is slated for January 12, 2026 from the first launchpad of Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikotta. This will be the first satellite launch in this year and with this the researchers from the ISRO are aiming to make a comeback of the PSLV after the previous setback with PSLV-C-61 in May 2025 due to a technical glitch in the third stage launch due to changes in the chamber pressure during its firing.

The Earth observation Satellite has been designed for strategic defence purposes and civilian activities like agriculture, urban areas mapping and environmental assessment.

The PSLV-C62 will be the 64th flight of the PSLV and the fifth mission of the PSLV-DL variant. The satellite has a lift off mass of 260 tonnes and stands 44.4 metres tall. It will be placed at an altitude of 505.291Km.

The mission will also include 15 co-passenger satellites from commercial and international space agencies. PSLV-C62 mission will also demonstrate Kestrel Initial Technology Demonstrator (KID) from a Spanish startup, which is a small-scale prototype of a re-entry vehicle being developed by the startup. The KID will be the last co-passenger to be injected, after which it is slated to re-enter the earth's atmosphere towards splashdown in the South Pacific Ocean.

ISRO team said that the EOS-N1 and 14 co-passenger satellites will be injected into a Sun Synchronous Orbit and the KID Capsule into a re-entry trajectory. After injection of EOS-N1 and 14 satellites, fourth stage will be re-started to de-boost and enter a re-entry trajectory, followed by KID Capsule separation. Both PS4 stage and KID capsule will re-enter into Earth's Atmosphere and impact will be in the South Pacific Ocean, the release added.

Aditya-L1 reveals solar storm's impact on magnetic shield

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

INDIAN Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) have decoded the impact of the solar storm on the Earth's magnetic shield using the information obtained in the Aditya-L1 mission.

Of the many solar storms that occur, one of them had impacted the Earth's magnetic field in October 24. The report titled- 'Extreme Geoeffectiveness by the Turbulent Sheath of Interplanetary Coronal Mass Ejections (ICME) of the 2024 October Space Weather Event', highlighted the data captured by Aditya-L1.

The scientists noted that the storm was caused by a massive eruption of solar plasma material from the Sun. The study also revealed the severe effects occurred during the impact of the turbulent region of the solar storm.

They noted that this turbulent region strongly compressed the Earth's magnetic field, pushing it unusually closer to the Earth and briefly exposing some satellites in geostationary orbit to harsh space conditions. They pointed that this phenomenon occurs only during severe space weather events. Currents in the auroral region (high latitudes) super intensified, potentially heating the Earth's upper atmosphere and causing enhanced atmospheric escape.

Space weather refers to the conditions in space that are caused by transient activities on the Sun, such as solar plasma eruptions. These affect satellites, communication and navigation services and power grid infrastructure on Earth. During such strong space weather events, Earth's magnetic shield can be significantly disturbed.

The study had revealed that the most severe effects occurred during the impact of the turbulent region of the solar storm, which was identified with the help of Aditya-L1 observations. The Aditya-L1 had captured the interaction with Earth's magnetosphere. The Earth's magnetosphere acts as an invisible shield that protects people from harmful charged particles coming from the Sun.

Rapid city growth threatens public health, say experts

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

"Gig workers are among the most vulnerable when it comes to health in the city," said public health expert Dr Shreelata Rao Seshadri, Professor and Director, Ramalingaswami Centre for Equity and Social Determinants of Health, PHFI, highlighting how Bengaluru's rapid growth has come at a cost to those working in informal and platform-based jobs. Long and irregular working hours, lack of social security, unsafe working conditions and poor housing leave gig workers disproportionately exposed to illness and long-term health risks, she added.

In a panel discussion Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao highlighted the challenges of implementing health-friendly infrastructure in the city. He said creating bike lanes is difficult, while footpaths are frequently encroached by vendors.

Economist and health systems researcher Dr Nachiket Mor noted that poorly ventilated homes, offices and public spaces contribute significantly to respiratory illnesses. Questioning the proposed underground tunnels, he asked whether Bengaluru has adequately considered their long-term health. Former DCM and MLA Dr CN Ashwath Narayan said health continues to receive the least priority in urban governance. He said it lacks clear benchmarks with urban governance remaining largely neglected.

Bike taxi driver held for misbaving with woman

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

The Annapoorneshwari Nagar police have arrested a bike taxi rider for allegedly misbehaving with a woman passenger and threatening her during a ride. The accused has been identified as Vivek. Police said the incident occurred on January 7 when the 29-year-old victim, who works with a private firm, had booked a bike taxi from Nagarabhavi. After picking her up, the rider allegedly leaned backwards intentionally during the ride and behaved indecently with her.

When the woman objected, he allegedly abused and threatened her. As the woman raised an alarm, the rider stopped the bike and allegedly touched her inappropriately while demanding payment, police said. The woman immediately called the Namma 112 emergency helpline, following which the accused fled the spot. She later lodged a complaint, based on which the police traced and arrested the accused.

Depression over Bay

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Also, there is a depression over south west Bay of Bengal off Sri Lanka Coast which is bringing cloudy skies, a dip in temperature and light drizzles to most parts of coastal and south-interior Karnataka, including Bengaluru. The weather condition will continue for the next couple of days. Doctors cautioned citizens of rise in flu and viral infections because of the change in weather. **ENS**

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PUBLIC NOTICE OF E-AUCTION SALE (For Immovable Property)

(In terms of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act 2002)

Whereas the Authorized Officer of the Bank has issued a Demand notice under Section 13(2) of SARFAESI ACT 2002 and thereafter in exercise of powers under Section 13(12) of SARFAESI ACT 2002 has taken possession of property mortgaged to Bank under Section 13(4) of the SARFAESI ACT 2002. The undersigned in the capacity of Authorized Officer has decided for sale of the property to public by E-auction and invite bids from the intending purchasers for purchase of immovable property mentioned hereunder on **"AS IS WHERE IS" & " AS IS WHAT IS"** basis.

Sl. No.	Name & Address of Borrower's / Guarantor.	a) Date of Demand Notice b) Date of Symbolic Possession c) Present outstanding	a) Date & Time for inspection of the property b) Bid submission last date c) Date & Time of E-Auction	a) Reserve Price b) EMD Amount c) Bid Increase Amount
1	**1. Mr.Shirisha MCS (Applicant) S/o Mr. Sashikanth Marandapalli Chakravarthy,** No.23, 1st Floor, 1st Main, 3rd Stage, Kattiguppe, Bangalore-560085. **2. Mrs. Vibha Manohara (Co-applicant) W/o Manohara MCS,** #379, 9th Main, 13th Cross, B Block, Chitrakoota, JP Nagar, Mysore-570008. **3. Keerthi K (Guarantor) W/o Mr. Shirisha MCS,** No.23, 1st Floor, 1st Main,3rd Stage, Kattiguppe, Bangalore-560085	a) 23.04.2025 b) 01.08.2025 c) Rs.82,02,900.09 plus interest and other charges	a) 27/01/2026 Between 10.00 AM to 5.00 PM b) As per BAANKNET guidelines c) 28/01/2026 between 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM	a) Rs.91,60,000/- b) Rs.9,16,000/- c) Rs.25,000/-
	DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY: SCHEDULE - 'A' PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of Residential Property bearing No.20/1B,2,3,4 & Site No.304 situated at Dattagalli, Next to MUDA Employees Housing Layout, Mysore, total measuring 3547.78 Square Meters & **Bounded on:** East by: Road & MUDA Layout, West by: Private Property, North by: Private Property, South by: Property of VDB & Road. **SCHEDULE - 'B' PROPERTY:** 1033.51 Square Feet of Undivided Share, right, title, interest and ownership in schedule 'A' **SCHEDULE - 'C' PROPERTY:** A residential property- apartment bearing Flat No. B-9, First Floor, Block-3,3BHK apartment building known as "Sri Sai Yoga Residency" measuring in total of 1775 sqft of super built up area along with exclusive car parking area of basement & the apartment is **Bounded by:** East by: 6 meters Drive way, West by: Flat No. B-10, North by: 6 meters Drive way, South by: Lift Corridor. **In the Name of: Mr.Shirisha MC S S/o Sashikala Marandapalli Chakravarthy**			
2	**Mrs.Mamatha S W/o Cheluvaraja,** G-1 Shivganga Hill View Apartment, JCHN layout, Near Golden Penarum, 80 Feet Road, Gubalala, Bangalore-560061.	a) 31.01.2025 b) 03.05.2025 c) Rs.66,24,346.16 plus interest and other charges.	a) 27.01.2026 Between 10.00 AM to 5.00 PM b) As per BAANKNET guidelines c) 28-01-2026 between 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM	a) Rs.85,60,000/- b) Rs.8,56,000/- c) Rs.25,000/-
	DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY: SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of Residential Property bearing No.20/1B,2,3,4 & Site No.304 situated at Dattagalli, Next to MUDA Employees Housing Layout, Mysore, total measuring 3547.78 Square Meters & **Bounded on:** East by: Road & MUDA Layout, West by: Private Property, North by: Private Property, South by: Property of VDB & Road. **SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY:** 965.96 square Feet of Undivided Share, right, title, interest and ownership in schedule 'A' Property. **SCHEDULE 'C' PROPERTY:** A residential Apartment property apartment bearing Flat No. A13, PID No.217195 in Ground Floor, Block 4,in 3 BHK, Apartment building known as "SRI SAI YOGA RESIDNECY" measuring in total of 1659 Square Feet of Super Built up Area along with exclusive Car Parking Area at basement & the Apartment is **Bounded by:** East by: Flat No. A1, West by: Flat No. A12, North by: Open to Sky, South by: Open to Sky. **In the Name of: Ms.Mamatha S W/o Mr.Cheluvaraja**			

A/C No.19840210000731, IFSC Code : UCBA0001984, UCO Bank, Bannerghatta Road Branch, Bangalore.Tel:080-26683915

Details of known encumbrances: Not Known

1) Sale shall be subjected to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. Detailed terms and Conditions of the sale is available/ Published inthe following websites/ Web Portal: **https://baanknet.com/ education-psb/home**
2) The Properties are being sold on **"As is Where is Basis" and "As is What is Basis" and" Whatever There is Basis"**
3) The Particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule herein above have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorized Officers, but the Authorized Officer shall not beanswerable for any error, misstatement or Omission in this proclamation.
4) The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the website. **https://baanknet.com/education-psb/home on date 28-01-2026 between 11:00 A.M. to 05:00 P.M.**
5) It is open to the Bank to appoint a representative and make self-bid and participate in the auction.
6) The final decision is vested with Authorised Officer. (For Further details contact: 7073173989)

Date: 09.01.2026, Place: Bengaluru **Authorised Officer, UCO Bank**

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		Asso. Professor	02		
		Senior Resident	03		
02	Biochemistry	Asst. Professor	01	MBBS., MD.,	
		Senior Resident	03		
03	Physiology	Asst. Professor	03	MBBS., MD.,	
		Senior Resident	03		
04	Pharmacology	Asst. Professor	02	MBBS., MD.,	
		Asso. Professor	01		
		Senior Resident	03		
05	Pathology	Asst. Professor	02	MBBS., MD.,	
06	Microbiology	Senior Resident	03	MBBS., MD.,	
07	Community Medicine	Senior Resident	02	MBBS., MD.,	
08	Forensic Medicine	Asst. Professor	01	MBBS., MD.,	
		Asso. Professor	01		
		Senior Resident	03		
09	General Medicine	Asst. Professor	01	MBBS., MD.,	
		Senior Resident	02		
10	Emergency Medicine	Senior Resident	02	MBBS., MD., or MS, DNB	
11	General Surgery	Senior Resident	03	MBBS., MS.,	
12	Anaesthesiology	Senior Resident	01	MBBS., MD., or DA or DNB MBBS., MD.,	
13	ENT	Asst. Professor	01	MBBS., MS.,	
14	Ophthalmology	Senior Resident	01	MBBS., MS.,	

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"I've long understood there is zero difference between me and a bug, or a bug and a river, or a river and a voice shouting above it. It's nothing but a network of dependency under enormous fluctuating pressures

Béla Tarr

TARIFF TEST: HOW TRUMP PLANS TO WIN EVEN IF HE LOSES

THERE is an old maxim about casinos and players—the house never loses. Last week, punters who placed bets on Polymarket.com correctly predicting an invasion of Venezuela learnt that the "snatch and extract" mission doesn't qualify as an invasion and therefore doesn't trigger payouts. Even as the issue is being debated, punters are placing their chips predicting the outcome of tariffs case in the US Supreme Court. Only 23 percent—less than one in four—believe the court will rule in favour of Trump's tariffs. The punters will know next week if they lost their shirts or won, and will collect their payouts.

The one-time owner of Trump Taj Mahal and many other casinos plans to continue to collect. Donald J Trump is planning on winning even if he loses the court case. The war room of the US president is ready with a parade of options—plans B to Z. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, effectively the quarterback of Trump's economic war room, said, "What is not in doubt is our ability to continue collecting tariffs at roughly the same level," even if the justices strike them down.

On January 14, the US Supreme Court is expected to rule on case No 24-1287, *Learning Resources Inc & Petitioners vs Donald J Trump, President of the United States, et al.* The Trump administration used the 1977 International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) to impose tariffs on imports. The IEEPA allows the US president to address declared emergencies concerning "unusual and extraordinary" threats to national security, foreign policy, or the economy, including the authority to "regulate" or "prohibit" imports. The crux: no president in the past 50 years has used the law to "impose tariffs—let alone the sweeping worldwide tariffs".

THE THIRD EYE

SHANKKAR AIYAR

Author of *The Gated Republic, Aadhaar: A Biometric History of India's 12 Digit Revolution*, and *Accidental India*

(shankkar.aiyar@gmail.com)

The petition, filed by educational toymaker Learning Resources, small businesses and 12 state governments, asks "whether the IEEPA authorises the president to impose tariffs", particularly since the US Constitution gives Congress the power to regulate foreign commerce and impose import tariffs. The importers argued the IEEPA authorises sanctions or asset freezes, not broad duties.

US courts, including a federal one that adjudicates on international trade, struck down the tariffs since the IEEPA contains no explicit statutes on them. The Trump team has argued "regulate… importation" covers imposition of duties. The courts pointed out that the major questions doctrine requires Congress to explicitly grant authority. The justices, during the hearings, raised fundamental questions on definitions and the separation of powers.

What are the possible outcomes? The best-case scenario for Trump is that the Supreme Court upholds the tariffs entirely—a jackpot that only about one in three punters is betting on. The worst-case outcome—and the jackpot for global exporters—is a total strike-down. Beyond the gamblers, even the legal cognoscenti—interpreting the "tell signs" from other rulings—suspect Trump may lose. This would mean a rollback of the tariffs and the start of a "refund crisis" for the more than $150 billion collected.

The Trump administration is prepared for the day after. It has arranged an array of three-digit codes to keep the tariff flag flying. Section 122 of the Trade Act of 1934, under a Nixon-era precedent, allows the immediate imposition of 15 percent tariff across the board while building cases under other sections. The commerce department can launch expedited investigations to tag imports in strategic sectors (steel, auto, tech) as security threats and impose tariffs under Section 232, as was done during Trump 1.0. Section 301 empowers US Trade Representative to probe country-specific practices for remedial action. Section 338 can be used on countries that discriminate against US exports. None of these afford the kind of sweeping, universal tariffs attempted under the IEEPA. Team Trump hopes the Supreme Court would weigh ramifications and pray the order would be nuanced even if the issue seems binary.

Courts often look for an off-ramp in constitutional face-offs with the executive. The queries of the justices suggest a two-pronged approach. They could invoke the major questions doctrine and rule that the power to regulate is not a power to impose tariff. However, it may choose to not pull the plug, citing risks of an economic chaos and, instead, direct the administration to seek ratification by the Congress, shifting the onus on to legislators.

There are other off-ramps cited in case laws. The court could rule that the administration used the wrong law, yet uphold the tariffs relying on the Remand Without Vacatur doctrine, which allows the executive time for housekeeping. In this scenario, the USTR would pivot to an expedited investigation, reclassifying the tariffs under the security tag. Alternatively, the court could accept the president's power to act in a crisis, but reject the permanency of tariffs specifying a sunset clause. Beyond that, the House and the Senate must bless the trade policy.

A day after the November 5 hearings in the Supreme Court, Trump hoped for a victory and, at the same time, acknowledged the need for a backup, stating, "We'll have to develop a game two plan." USTR Jamieson Greer is leading the Plan B track and timelines have been drawn out. The buzz is that pre-baked or pre-filed investigations are cued up, ready to roll. Team Trump is also examining the potential of United States Reciprocal Trade Act (HR 735), which explicitly authorises the president to negotiate and impose duties on imports, to be teed up just in case.

Dwight Eisenhower once said, "Plans are worthless, but planning is everything." Trump is set to spin the roulette again to win. After all, the house never loses! The tariff saga is far from over.

WHY WASHINGTON NEEDS TO CALL DELHI

POWER & POLITICS

PRABHU CHAWLA

prabhuchawla@newindianexpress.com

Follow him on X @PrabhuChawla

GREAT nations rarely fall to foreign invasion. They corrode from within—when vanity overtakes vision and bluster replaces balance. That is the story unfolding in Washington, where Donald Trump, once again armed with his rhetoric of revival, is turning America's biggest democratic ally into a rhetorical punching bag. His new confrontation with India is not strategic audacity. It is a geopolitical folly.

Ever since his return to the White House, Trump has come back with his old instincts sharper and allies wearier. He sees diplomacy as a performance, not a partnership; deals as domination, not dialogue. Instead of rebuilding America's network of allies, he is dismantling it, one tariff and one insult at a time. Yet, in going after India, Trump has chosen an adversary he cannot intimidate.

India is not a junior partner waiting for approval from Washington. It is a civilisational power, anchored in political stability, institutional maturity and economic resilience. The notion that Trump can browbeat such a nation into compliance reveals how outdated his imagination truly is. The current spiral began with a petty accusation dressed up as policy.

Last week, US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick made extraordinary remarks on the All In podcast. He claimed that a major trade deal with India had collapsed not because of policy differences, but because Prime Minister Narendra Modi had "refused to call President Trump" at an opportune moment. "I set the deal up," Lutnick declared, "and Modi was meant to call. India did not call. So the deal fell apart."

It was diplomacy reduced to schoolyard drama. Lutnick portrayed diplomacy as though it were a courtly ritual in which leaders must bow to secure favour. According to him, India had been given three chances in 2025 to complete the agreement, before the United States turned to other Asian nations like Vietnam and Indonesia. The narrative was clearly meant to humiliate New Delhi. The message was loud and clear. Proximity to Trump's ego, not parity of interest, determines access to Washington's trade benefits.

India's ministry of external affairs, however, demolished this spin with facts. Within hours, official spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal clarified that Modi and Trump had spoken eight times in 2025, covering trade, technology, and global security. "The way this has been described is inaccurate," The deal stalled not because of failed phone etiquette but because of Washington's fluctuating conditions and Trump's obsession with personal validation.

AFP

The US needs India more than the other way around because American strategic interests are uniquely served by India's vast and youthful market, strategic position in the Indo-Pacific and rare political stability

That principle just can't be accepted by the new India—self-reliant, confident and unwilling to be dragged into narrow geopolitical games. But Trump pushed further. In late 2025, riding on bipartisan nationalism, he signed the Sanctioning Russia Act, threatening extreme tariffs up to 500 percent on countries that continued purchases of Russian energy including oil, gas and uranium. It was a blunt instrument aimed at India, China and Brazil under the pretence of "starving Moscow of resources". India has refused to blink. New Delhi's calm defiance exposed the hollowness of Trump's strategy. He mistook coercion for influence, forgetting that power today is not about pressure. It is about partnership.

Trump's retreat from global platforms has made matters worse. On January 7, he ordered the United States to withdraw from the International Solar Alliance. It's one of India's proudest multilateral initiatives, launched with France in 2015 to promote renewable energy for developing countries. Yet, the exit hardly slowed the project. India filled the void with funding from Japan, the European Union and the African Development Bank. America's retreat only underlined India's ascent as a dependable leader of the global energy transition.

What makes Trump's India obsession more incoherent is the way he treats adversaries differently. He has repeatedly claimed, falsely, that he personally halted "a war between India and Pakistan", a statement refuted by both governments. He repeats this myth on rally stages as proof of his diplomatic genius, as if India owes him a debt of gratitude.

Meanwhile, his outreach to Pakistan's military leadership and the economic aid extended to Dhaka's new government has signalled an unsettling tilt against India's regional interests. By bending towards China and battering India, Trump is in effect eroding the strategic axis that can restrain Beijing's ambitions in the Indo-Pacific. In alienating India, Trump handicaps America's own ability to expand its influence in Asia's geopolitically-charged waters.

This is where the equation turns unmistakably against him. The United States, for all its economic size, is facing strategic overstretch and demographic stagnation. India, on the other hand, is a rising continental power positioned at the crossroads of the Indian Ocean, capable of stabilising sea lanes and insulating global commerce from Beijing's coercive maritime designs. Its market of 1.4 billion consumers provides the demand scale that sustains global innovation and manufacturing growth. Every major American technology company—Apple, Google, Amazon, Tesla—depends on Indian software architects, consumers and talent flows to keep its future alive. The geopolitical reality is simple: without India, America cannot sustain its competitive edge.

If Trump truly wishes to make America great again, he must first make America wise again. Wisdom means recognising that the 21st century's balance of power depends on cooperation with nations that combine democratic values with demographic vitality. And there is no partner that fits this profile better than India.

New Delhi offers Washington three priceless assets: a vast and youthful market that sustains corporate ambition, a strategic geography that buffers the Indo-Pacific from Chinese hegemony, and a political stability that most major democracies now envy. America's future greatness depends on the strength and equality of its partnerships, not on the loudness of its commands. India represents that future—confident, collaborative, and consequential.

If Washington chooses confrontation, it will isolate itself from the very power most capable of balancing China and ensuring a stable Asia. But if it chooses cooperation with India, it has a chance to renew its global relevance and moral leadership. The choice is Trump's to make, but the consequences will belong to America. Because in 2026, one truth stands taller than any rhetoric: the United States needs India far more than India needs the United States. The sooner Washington accepts this, the sooner both nations can take their rightful places as partners and not as rivals in shaping a sane and sustainable world order.

GREENLAND, GENGHIS & RETURN OF MIGHT

INTEREST FREE

SANTWANA BHATTACHARYA

Editor

santwana@newindianexpress.com

"We will do something with Greenland—either the nice way or the difficult way."

YOU have to hand it to Donald Trump: he doesn't beat about the bush. No pun intended. There is no ambiguity, no diplomatic lacework, no UN-friendly euphemism. The world and its uncle have been alerted well in advance about the next flashpoint. This time, there will be no late-night 'abduction'. No tinpot to run away with the silver spoon. It will all be done in broad daylight, helpfully. Trump does not appreciate the idea of having China and Russia as neighbours. So he will simply annex Greenland—preferably without bullets. Mr Trump, after all, is anti-war.

Don't forget how, with both Zelenskyy and Putin, he preferred the repertoire of emotional manipulation to 'bombing for peace', like his predecessors. Only scolding, cajoling, threatening to dump, showing red eyes, shaking hands. Gaza was more complicated. But anyone can see all he wants, really, is to wage peace, build a few Trump Towers, and walk into a Levantine beach sunset clutching a Nobel Prize and a Piña Colada. Beijing, Moscow did not sign on to the script. Nor Tehran. Their bad.

When Genghis Khan went on his conquests, flattening gumbads across Eurasia, there was no Monroe doctrine. He was not "creating strategic depth" or "securing trade corridors"—those phrases would come centuries later to justify similar behaviour, in better English. Like the chariot-riding Yamnaya four thousand years before him, the gentle Khan was just extending his DDA flat balcony across the Steppe to create some living room for his horses. There were no Brookings think-tankers dissecting his invasions, no white papers papering over the extermination of those who stood in the way: men, women, children, blades of grass. Oil had not yet been discovered, but trade routes existed to be looted, then controlled, then weaponised.

Those centuries, which in our innocent hindsight we call medieval, did not speak the language of geopolitics. Revisionist historians indeed accuse Genghis and his progeny of having invented modern diplomacy, but even they agree that Pax Mongoliana, as a rules-based order, was entirely one-sided. No United Nations to bother with, not even a wimpish, dysfunctional one. No Geneva Convention to invoke or violate. No lip service to norms of civil or military conduct. It was brutally simple: might is right, so please get out of the way.

Some would say we are back to basics. The past is rehearsing itself for a comeback tour. Resource mobilisation—who gets what, from where, in which currency—is once again a kosher excuse for brute force. Land, sea routes, oil, the Arctic, rare earths, silver, uranium—all up for grabs. Through contracts? Maybe, as long as they are of the sort American pioneers signed with the First Nations.

The past is rehearsing itself for a comeback tour. Resource mobilisation is again a kosher excuse for using brute force. As a rules-based order, Pax Mongoliana too was entirely one-sided

Beijing must not try this. It cannot have its Belt and Road running up all the way up to Caracas! With a pit-stop in Tehran at that. Venezuelan oil, it can forget. Iranian? Up next. How about Taiwan? Xi must not go tilting at windmill exports. What does Xi think about this? We don't know, he doesn't speak much. But it's the Gunfight at the Not OK Corral, and he may spring from the shadows like a shaolin monk with a rare-earth magnetic sword. Japan and India would do well to relearn their ninjutsus and payattus. It's a free-for-all out there.

If Greenland is sentimental about sovereignty, culture or identity, it can take a walk in the snow. Denmark may wax nostalgic about the boat that carried Danes to icy Greenland 500 years ago, but as Italy's Giorgia Meloni put it with clinical candour: "We have to be merciless." Anyway, as a wise old prospector said, recalling the tone of early and late conquistadors, right up to the Right Honourable Arthur Balfour on Palestine: "There are only some Eskimos there."

A variation of that could be used for Bengal, except for the inconvenient fact that there are too many Bengalis. A 'process' is setting that right. If identity politics looms as a problem, identity cards can be a cure. Mamata Banerjee may be out on a long march to defend Bengal's right to recalcitrance—not even letting poor Enforcement Directorate to run off with the Purloined Letter. Bengali *maachh* does come with a lot of thorns!

But forget all that noise, it's basically a miniature version of the global war over resources that's playing out there. What magic would a 'double-engine P C Sorcar' pull off if installed in Writers' Building? Suvendu Adhikari, Delhi's local Dada in Kolkata, once outlined his vision to this writer. Eyes rolled over in mishti delight as he went over a full Bijoli Grill menu of "development"—sea routes, ports, airports, coal, iron ore, china clay, silica sand, what not! Bengal is political rare earth. They want exclusive rights. Only the hilsa can migrate freely.

QUOTE CORNER

Young political aides now compete to be the most 'based', one-upping each other with increasingly unhinged positions on race, sex and who the good guys were in World War II. If you've ever winced at a social-media post by an official account, remember that the person who wrote it is often a young employee who takes most of his cues from the internet. Over time, the State itself begins to sound like X.

Vivek Ramaswamy, US Republican politician, on quitting Instagram and X

This is, in effect, the most expensive arrest in human history.

Fareed Zakaria on the US abducting Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro while leaving the rest of his administration intact

To work, it must move to a draft or an auction. The [Indian Super] League cannot continue in this free-market way.

Parth Jindal, Bengaluru FC owner, on the paucity of funds in Indian football

MAILBAG WRITE TO letters@newindianexpress.com

Censor solution

Ref: *HC stays film release, no Pongal outing for Vijay's Jana Nayagan* (Jan 10). For films with political overtones, censor clearance often turns into a nightmare when the release date is fixed in advance. In many cases, courts become the last resort. The simple solution would be to get the censor certificate first, then announce the release. It would be sensible and avoid needless chaos.

K Venkatasubramanian, Chennai

Courting confusion

The human propensity to vacillate is well-known, but people approach courts for clearcut decisions. Contradictory rulings from different judges of the same court put litigants in a quagmire. They raise the question as to how judgements can vary widely when the facts are the same. Such perplexing rulings affect the credibility of the system.

Rajarao Kumar, Bengaluru

Raid raj

Ref: *Mamata hits the road against raids in Bengal, her MPs detained in Delhi* (Jan 10). The West Bengal chief minister has made serious allegations regarding the use of central agencies for political purposes. Such actions weaken the constitutional balance between the Centre and the states. Democracy thrives on dialogue, mutual respect and adherence to constitutional values, rather than confrontation or concentration of power. It is essential that all governments uphold the Constitution and work together to protect public trust in governance.

Mohd Noori, Patna

Pressuring Russia

Ref: Needed: *A fresh policy framework to engage US* (Jan 10). India has been in a pickle since the start of the trade war. The West is focusing on isolating Russia through its allies to exert pressure for stopping the Ukraine war. Such pressure tactics cannot last long. A hard-worked diplomatic solution is needed when the United Nations has become ineffective.

R V Baskaran, Pune

Sabarimala probe

Ref: *Sabarimala thantri held in gold case* (Jan 10). The arrest of thantri Kandararu Rajeevaru has sent shockwaves among lakhs of Ayyappa devotees worldwide. While nobody is above the law and the guilty needs to be brought to book, it looks like the SIT is hurriedly trying to wind up the case at the behest of the ruling dispensation. Otherwise, the role of politicians would become clearer, leaving the LDF government with much to answer. This arrest should not be used as a smokescreen.

C M Umanath, Kozhikode

Maharashtra mess

Ref: *Shinde ties up with Ajit's NCP* (Jan 10). The BJP and Shiv Sena, who are ruling allies in Maharashtra, were pitted against each other in Ambernath. The NCP, another ally, withdrew support for the BJP-led coalition after suspended Congress councillors joined the party. In all, this is a blow to the BJP in Maharashtra, which wanted to keep the Shiv Sena out of power in this municipal council.

S Sankaranarayanan, Chennai

Gutting Nato

Ref: *Envoys open talks to wean Don away* (Jan 10). It would be the death knell for Nato if the US continues its misadventures against partners in the security bloc. Forcibly taking over Danish territory would certainly hurt the letter and spirit of the grouping. Meanwhile, members like France, Germany and Italy seem disillusioned with Nato. If the group disintegrates, Russia's reasons for waging war against Ukraine will weaken. The world seems ripe for major geopolitical adjustments.

D V G Sankara Rao, Srikakulam

Promote Kerala

Ref: *Kerala only Indian pick in UK travel magazine list* (Jan 10). The state's selection as a top global travel destination makes every Keralite proud. Its beaches, backwaters, hills and culture attract tourists from around the world. The government must make greater efforts to protect nature and promote responsible tourism so that this beauty remains for future generations too.

Mohammed Shamil, Kozhikode

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Abhishek Banerjee @abhishekaitc

Bangla-Birodhi BJP, having failed to earn the trust of Bengal's people, now resorts to muzzling those very voices by stripping citizens of their voting rights.

Aaditya Thackeray @AUThackeray

It's 5 days to election day in Mumbai. Yet the bjp has no agenda, no vision or direction and no manifesto for the city of Mumbai.

Yogi Adityanath @myogiadityanath

Those who are still dividing you today... Whenever these people get a chance, they will create an identity crisis, generate chaos, attack Sanatan Dharma...

Kin of sailor on US-seized ship anxious

Family clueless about Himachal youth after Russia-flagged tanker was taken by American forces

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

Chauhan was aboard oil tanker Marinera (R) when it was seized on Thursday

Was scheduled to return for brother's wedding

Rikshit, who joined the vessel in Iran in August last year, had been scheduled to return on February 15 to attend his elder brother Dikshit Chauhan's wedding on February 18. Before the tanker was seized, Rikshit maintained regular contact with his family.

FOR the Chauhan family of Palampur, the days that were meant for celebration have instead become a tense vigil filled with uncertainty. Rikshit Chauhan, a 26-year-old marine professional, is among three Indian nationals detained by US authorities after a Russian-flagged oil tanker was intercepted in the North Atlantic earlier this month.

Rikshit was serving aboard the oil tanker Marinera, formerly known as Bella 1, which the United States Coast Guard seized while sailing from the Caribbean Sea. The vessel, operating under a Russian flag, is alleged to have been transporting crude oil linked to Venezuela in violation of US sanctions and was reportedly en route to Russia at the time of interception.

A total of 28 crew members were on board, including three Indians, 20 Ukrainians, six Georgians, and two Russians. All remain in US custody as legal and diplomatic processes unfold.

At the family home in Ward 7, Palampur, anxiety runs high. Ranjit Singh, Rikshit's father, a state government employee posted at Sula Naib Tehsil, recalled learning of the seizure through media. "The whole family is worried about his safety and well-being. No one contacted us—neither the government nor the Russian government, nor the company where my son works," Singh said. "I had to approach the pardhan of the Palampur Municipal Corporation to get help."

After reaching out locally, Singh received support from MLA Ashish Butail, who assured the family of assistance and said he had requested Chief Secretary Sanjay Gupta to engage the Ministry of External Affairs to intensify diplomatic efforts for Rikshit's release. Later, a representative from the Merchant Navy Officers Association of India informed the family that the Russian government was closely monitoring the situation.

Rikshit, who joined the vessel in Iran in August last year, had been scheduled to return on February 15 to attend his elder brother Dikshit Chauhan's wedding on February 18. Dikshit works with a private bank in Palampur. "This was my son's third trip; he had just started his career," Singh said. "Earlier, he had worked on another tanker. He is young, and the uncertainty is very difficult for all of us."

Before the tanker was seized, Rikshit maintained regular contact with his family, calling three times a day. His last call on January 7 came with an update about heavy snow in the North Atlantic, limiting communication. "Now I feel he might have sensed the situation but didn't share the details with us," Singh added. He also confirmed that the other two Indians on board were from Kerala and Goa.

On Friday, External Affairs Ministry said it was closely monitoring the situation and "ascertaining" details regarding the Indian nationals. The seizure was formally announced by the US European Command on January 7. For the Chauhans, and families like them, the ordeal is a collision of global geopolitics and intimate personal anxieties.

NICOLAS MADURO

CHAVEZ'S CARICATURE WHO COULDN'T LAUGH

JAYANTH JACOB

NICOLAS Maduro Moros's story has always unfolded at the seam between belief and brute force, between the intimacy of loyalty and the cold mechanics of power.

It ended in the early hours of a January morning, when US soldiers dragged him and his wife, Cilia Flores, from their bedroom and flew them out of Venezuela.

For a man who spent more than a decade insisting that Washington was plotting to kidnap him, the final image was cruelly symmetrical.

Maduro was never meant to be Hugo Chavez. He lacked the thunderous charisma, the improvisational brilliance, above all the soldier's authority. Tall, mustachioed, with a habit of misspeaking in English, he might have seemed an improbable heir to a revolution built on spectacle. Yet that improbability became his defining political skill. Where Chavez dazzled, Maduro endured.

Born in 1962 in the working-class neighbuorhood of Caracas, the son of a trade unionist steeped in old-party politics, Maduro entered public life not through barracks or universities but on a bus route, as a driver for the Caracas Metro.

Union activities carried him upward. Ideology certainly followed through the Socialist League, student politics, a taste for John Lennon lyrics and anti-imperialist rhetoric. Power followed loyalty. Chavez took note of it all very early.

By the time Chavez's illness hollowed out the Bolivarian state, Maduro had positioned himself as indispensable, speaker of the National Assembly, then foreign minister, then vice president. In December 2012, with death closing in, Chavez ended internal rivalries by anointing him successor. The blessing mattered. It gave Maduro legitimacy he would never relinquish.

Maduro's first victory in April 2013, by fewer than two percentage points, set the tone for what followed. The opposition questioned the result and took to the streets. The government responded with a mix of concessions, institutional closure, and force. Through elections in 2014, 2017, 2019, and 2024, this dynamic hardened into a system of its own.

Yet Maduro was not simply a caricature of authoritarianism. His personality, stubborn and literal, shaped his rule. A Catholic by birth, he and Flores became devoted followers of the Sathya Sai Baba, whose portrait once hung in his private office alongside Simón Bolívar and

NEWSMAKER

MANDAR PARDIKAR

Chávez. When Sai Baba died in 2011, Maduro declared a national day of mourning. He spoke of light, destiny, and spiritual warfare with the same cadence he used to denounce sanctions and coups. To supporters, it signaled sincerity. To critics, nothing but delusion.

The world Maduro inherited slowly crumbled around him. Oil, the lifeblood of Venezuela, fell victim to mismanagement, corruption, global price declines and designs of outside powers. Maduro blamed the United States, and not without cause though not without exaggeration.

Washington's pressure spanned administrations and tactics—from personal sanctions and oil restrictions to rewards for arrest, sporadic dialogue, and, eventually, military force. The toughest oil sanctions came only in 2019, after Venezuela's economic collapse was already underway, but they compounded the damage and narrowed Maduro's options. Each escalation also gave him political cover, reinforcing his narrative of sovereignty under siege.

Still, survival required more than political valour. Maduro mastered the art of dividing enemies and buying time. He neutralized an opposition victory in parliament in 2015. He convened a constituent assembly in 2017 to sideline hostile institutions. He talked endlessly, dialogue as a delaying tactic, while consolidating control. He leaned on the military and cultivated armed civilian groups. The US prosecutors would later allege that Maduro led the Cartel of the Suns, a narco-terror network entwined with Colombia's FARC. Maduro denied it all.

International isolation never fully broke him. Russia, China, Iran, and Cuba offered lifelines. Even as leftist allies like Brazil and Colombia recoiled from his 2024 election claims, Maduro clung on. He was sworn in again in January 2025, defiant, a man convinced that history rewarded those who refused to blink. It was all good as long as it lasted.

In the end, the decisive blink came from outside in the form of a US intervention, carried out without a United Nations mandate and without explicit authorisation from the Congress, that finally removed him. He was neither a mere puppet of circumstance nor an omnipotent tyrant in full command of events. He was a believer who learned, gradually, to govern through means he found ideal, a man who spoke of God, destiny, and light while ruling a country sunk in shadow.

Newly raised Bhairav Army unit gets Naga as insignia

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

WHILE marching down the Kartavya Path on the Republic Day parade, India's newly raised Bhairav Light Combat Battalions would be seen carrying Vasuki, the King of Snakes, etched as the part of their insignia. "The insignia of the unit carries Nag vasuki and the Commando Dagger as part of the insignia," according to a source. The Hindi words "Adrashya (Invisible) and Adamya (Indomitable)" is the motto for the unit, the source added.

Bhairav is one of the many names of Hindu God Shiva and he is always seen accompanied with the King of snakes Vasuki around his neck.

"Selection of the symbols, images and words are being carried out with an aim and in this case indomitable spirit and fearlessness associated with the Bhairav battalions is being depicted using the Nag (Cobra)," the source stated.

Vasuki was used by the Gods and demons as rope around Mount Mandara to separate amrita (nectar), the divine drink granting immortality.

As reported by this newspaper, the Bhairav Battalions, part of the Indian Army's transformation bid, will be raising a total of 25 battalions by April.

PM asks forces to firm up gains in Naxal areas with policy shift

MUKESH RANJAN @ New Delhi

States asked to emulate Bastar Olympics success

The states were also asked to involve local youth through constructive activities such as sports competitions and cultural programmes at the block and district levels, on the lines of initiatives like the recently held 'Bastar Olympics', they said, adding that such activities will help bridge trust deficits and give young people a stake in peace.

ENCOURAGED by diminishing cases of Left-Wing-Extremism (LWE) related violence, sources said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during the recently held DGP/IGP conference in Chhattisgarh, directed officials to make a decisive shift in strategy from 'armed action' against violent elements to 'unfolding welfare and developmental initiatives' in the previosuly Naxal dominated districts.

According to sources, the directions were given with an aim to hold on to the areas regained from the Naxal operatives, by drying up local support for Maoists.

Prime Minister stressed on the fact that since the situation in such areas has seen a 'significant improvement', the states and union territories previously affected by LWE should shift their focus on public outreach, positive policing and deeper engagement with local communities, especially tribal youth, sources said.

A senior official, who attended the meet in Raipur in November last year, quoting the Prime Minister, told this newspaper that he asked state police forces to shift their strategy from "crisis handling to facilitating welfare and development" and reach out to people at large.

The PM, it is learnt, also asked the state governments to ensure that they post more development work-related officers in those areas, instead deploying security forces.

"The Prime Minister said, efforts should also be made to build a positive image of the police by narrating and amplifying stories of sacrifice, valour, professionalism and hard work of personnel security force in their fight against Naxal operatives, as the change in narrative remains a critical component in consolidating the gains made on the ground," the official said.

The states were also asked to involve local youth through constructive activities such as sports competitions and cultural programmes at the block and district levels, on the lines of initiatives like the recently held 'Bastar Olympics', they said, adding that such activities will help bridge trust deficits and give young people a stake in peace.

On the lines of initiatives taken for the youth of Jammu & Kashmir, it was also suggested that the state governments organize tours and educational tours for tribal youth to other parts of the country to help them connect with mainstream India and build an emotional bond beyond conflict zones.

Notably, these suggestions come in the backdrop of major setbacks suffered by the Maoist leadership in recent months. In a significant blow, security forces killed Ganesh Uikey, a Central Committee member and the Odisha in-charge of the banned CPM, in a major anti-Maoist operation in Kandhamal district on December 25. His death followed the earlier elimination of Madvi Hidma.

EXPRESS READ

Op Sindoor compelled Pak to go for constitutional changes: CDS Chauhan

Operation Sindoor compelled Pakistan to undertake constitutional amendments, which is an acknowledgement that things did not go well for the neighbouring nation, Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan said, while addressing the Pune Public Policy Festival. Discussing the progress of the proposed joint theatre commands in India, Chauhan stated on Friday that the government has granted an extension for completing the exercise until May 30, 2026. General Chauhan also said that the process is now in its final stages.

All candidates to undergo facial authentication at exam centres: UPSC

All candidates appearing in recruitment examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) will undergo face authentication at the venues, officials said on Saturday. They said it would further strengthen the integrity of the examination process. "All candidates appearing in the UPSC examination will undergo face authentication at the venue," read a note on the Commission's website. The UPSC had successfully conducted a pilot program to test AI-enabled face authentication for quick and secure candidate verification earlier.

Sergio Gor, Trump's man in India for turbulent times, reaches Delhi

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

SERGIO Gor, the US ambassador-designate and a key member of President Donald Trump's inner circle, arrived in New Delhi Friday night as India-US relations face unprecedented strain. Appointed as envoy in mid-November, Gor described his arrival on social media, saying: "Great to be back in India! Incredible opportunities ahead for our two nations!"

Gor's arrival comes amid a fresh row between the two countries following US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick's claim that last year's proposed trade deal stalled because Prime Minister Narendra Modi did not call President Trump a claim New Delhi rejected as "inaccurate." The countries have also been at odds over Trump's decision to double tariffs on certain Indian goods to 50%, including a 25% additional duty on India's purchase of Russian crude oil as well as changes to US immigration and visa regime.

Gor was serving as the White House personnel director when Trump nominated him in August as the next US envoy to India. The Senate confirmed his appointment in October. At his oath ceremony, Trump described Gor as a trusted figure to "strengthen one of our country's most important international relationships—the strategic partnership with India." Gor has played a major role in Trump's 2024 presidential campaign and oversaw the vetting of political appointees.

The ambassador-designate had previously visited India for six days in October after his Senate confirmation, meeting PM Modi and External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar.

India's B'desh envoy meets Tarique Rahman

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

INDIAN High Commissioner to Bangladesh, Pranay Verma, met Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) Chairman Tarique Rahman on Saturday, a day after the party formally elected him to the position. The meeting, described by BNP media cell spokesman Sayrul Kabir Khan as a "courtesy call," lasted approximately 40 minutes.

Rahman, who has been acting chairman of the BNP since 2018, was formally elected party chief by the BNP's policy-making standing committee on Friday night, January 9. His election comes 10 days after the death of his mother, former Prime Minister and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, who passed away following a prolonged illness.

Time for quick reset in India's policies: Expert

BALA CHAUHAN @ Bengaluru

UNITED States Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick claimed the US-India trade deal has stalled because Prime Minister Narendra Modi did not call President Trump, adding uncertainty to the much-anticipated agreement. External Affairs Minitrsy rejected the claim as "not accurate," and said Modi and Trump spoke eight times in 2025.

Six rounds of negotiations have taken place, but Lutnick suggested changing conditions mean India may no longer receive the previously arranged deal. Amid growing geopolitical headwinds, an expert called for a swift reset of India's foreign and domestic policies to navigate a shifting global order.

"India has to adjust quickly and thoroughly to survive in this environment of growing imperialism. Imagine being pressured from outside to change our independent foreign policy, which would hurt our global position and stability at home. As old rules fade, survival depends on strong internal balance, not just words," Brigadier Anil Raman, a research scholar on US domestic politics and foreign policy from the Bengaluru-based Takshashila Institution, told this newspaper.

Jaishankar met French President Emmanuel Macron during his 6-day visit to France

'Powerful countries believe they can dominate others'

"This reveals the core logic of imperialism: any strategically important place that does not cooperate could face US control. In this way of thinking, powerful countries believe they can dominate others just because it suits their strategy. Geography, alliances, and international law become less important. This approach blurs the borders between adversaries, partners, and dependents," Brigadier Anil Raman said.

"India needs to fix its weaknesses, reduce social tension, close gaps in governance, and become more unified. Fast administrative reform is essential, since slow progress will not keep up with competition. Military improvements need strong industry and reliable supply chains. India's government must be built to last, focusing on unity and capability. Weakness inside the country invites outside pressure and division," he said.

Raman spoke on the near collapse of rules-based order and rise of personality-based imperialism. The signs of this became clear after the US abducted sitting Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro and his wife from their heavily-guarded location in Caracas last weekend.

"Right after the Venezuela operation, the Trump administration made its intentions clear. Top officials, including the President, told the press and repeated on Air Force One that the United States would 'run' Venezuela and control its oil resources 'for America.' This is the most direct statement of imperial intent from a US administration since the Cold War ended. This signals a major change in international politics," said the researcher.

"Instead of just intervening, the US is openly saying it plans to run another country and take its key resources. The Trump Corollary, described in the 2025 National Security Strategy, shows this shift by openly overriding other countries' sovereignty. This move from theory to action highlights changing power shifts. This is imperialism at its most obvious: one country using force or political control over another," said Raman.

He explained that power creates hierarchy, justified by what is useful, not by law or values.

DEADLY BLAZE
Three members of a family died after a fire erupted in a residential structure in Bhagat Singh Nagar area of suburban Goregaon in Mumbai early Saturday, officials said.

8 HELD IN GUJARAT FOR GANGRAPE OF GIRL

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	27	12	Mumbai	29	23
Bhopal	23	09	Panaji	33	21
Jaipur	18	07	Patna	16	10
Amritsar	13	04	Lucknow	17	08
Chennai	26	24	Port Blair	29	26
Kolkata	22	13	Imphal	20	10
Srinagar	05	-7	Chandigarh	16	05

EC adds 4 SROs, Didi takes on CEC

CM says commission 'insensitive', while poll body sends senior IAS officers as Bengal observers

SUBHENDU MAITI @ Kolkata

IN a move to intensify the ongoing SIR of electoral rolls in West Bengal, the Election Commission (EC) on Saturday appointed four more IAS officers from the Centre as special roll observers (SRO).

The move comes on a day Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee wrote another letter to Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar, accusing the EC of lacking "sensitivity and understanding of ground realities" in the state. She flagged the difficulties faced by migrant workers from Bengal in the SIR.

The four officers appointed for Bengal SIR are Dr Sailesh, deputy secretary, National Health Authority, Ratan Biswas, director, census operations, Tripura, Sandeep Rewaji Rathod, director, department of sports, and Vikash Singh, director, ministry of social justice and empowerment. The EC in separate letters told the four officers that they were appointed as SROs to "ensure that no eligible person is left out from enrolment and that no ineligible person is included in the electoral roll."

On December 8, the EC had appointed five IAS officers in the rank of joint secretaries for the Bengal SIR, which is now in the second phase after the draft roll was published on December 16. EC sources said around 58 lakh dead, duplicate, permanently shifted and absent voters have been deleted from the rolls till Saturday. Subrata Gupta, former secretary with the Union food processing ministry, has been made the SRO in charge of the state. All the SROs and 12 other IAS officers will work in coordination with the Bengal chief electoral officer (CEO) Manoj Agarwal.

Didi flags difficulties faced by migrant workers in SIR
In her letter to the CEC, Mamata flagged the difficulties faced by migrant workers from Bengal in the SIR. "The Election Commission has woken up so late to allow only select electors to appear through their authorised family members for the hearing. The same courtesy has not been extended to migrant workers," she said, alleging insensitivity.

In letter to the CEC, fourth time since November, Mamata said, "EC has woken up so late to allow only select electors to appear through their authorised family members for the hearing. The same courtesy has not been extended to migrant workers. This is a reflection of lack of sensitivity and understanding about the ground realities."

The CM added, "All this reflects a disturbing pattern of political bias and autocratic high-handedness by an institution that is expected to function as a constitutional authority. The EC appears to have descended to a level that is difficult to comprehend and deeply alarming for any democratic society."

She alleged that the Commission's objective "seems neither correction nor inclusion in the electoral rolls, but solely deletion and of exclusion."

AERO resigns in protest against 'discrepancies'

SUBHENDU MAITI @ Kolkata

AN assistant electoral registration officer (AERO) of Bengal's Howrah district has resigned in protest against the process related to logical discrepancies found in enumeration forms (EFs) of voters during the SIR. AERO Mousumi Sarkar, a block development officer (BDO), alleged that the process is a ploy to disenfranchise a large section of marginalised people.

"The logical discrepancies appeared in the BLO apps due to sporadic errors in conversion of PDF of 2002 electoral roll data to CSV as admitted by additional chief electoral officer," she stated in her resignation letter. "The spelling of the names of 2002 was taken as sacrosanct. But in reality many names were corrected through Form 8 afterwards in accordance with the rules of ECI," Sarkar said.

"Logical discrepancies do not make any sense and this is ploy to disenfranchise a large section of marginaled people who do not have any of the 12 documents required by EC to prove the veracity of their deposition through enumeration form," the resignation letter stated.

Punjab parties start poll season with rallies, BJP plans big show on Jan 14

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

WITH just a year remaining for the Assembly elections in Punjab, the political temperature in the state is rising. While the BJP is gearing up to hold its first-ever political conference during the Maghi Mela in Muktsar on January 14, the ruling AAP has decided to hold a political rally after 10 years.

Other political parties, including the SAD, SAD (Amritsar) and Akali Dal (Waris Punjab De), have also announced separate conferences the same day. Meanwhile, the Congress and the SAD (Punar Surjit), the breakaway Akali faction, will not hold any political rally this year. AAP and Congress have decided against any political event at Maghi Mela after 2018 due to a Akal Takht directive.

The AAP decision has come as the SAD, which is desperately trying to make a comeback in the state, announced to launch its campaign for the 2027 Assembly elections on January 14 at Maghi Mela. The party had last held a rally on the occasion in 2016. It would be held on Kotkapura Road near the memorial gate and will be attended by party workers from five districts.

Muktsar MLA Jagdeep Singh Kaka Brar said that as all major political parties are holding their political conferences so the party also decided to organize their event. "Our national convener Arvind Kejriwal, CM Bhagwant Mann, state president Aman Arora and several ministers and MLAs will attend the conference," he said.

SAD—the former ally of BJP—will hold its political conference at the Shiromani Gurudwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) ground on Malout Road. SAD chief Sukhbir Singh Badal has also appealed to his party workers to ensure a large turnout. The BJP event is set to be attended by former union minister Anurag Thakur, national general secretary of the party Tarun Chugh, Punjab BJP president Sunil Jakhar, among other senior leaders.

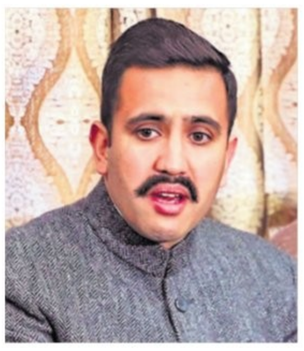
No Cong rally this year
Other political parties, including the SAD, SAD (Amritsar) and Akali Dal (Waris Punjab De), have also announced separate conferences the same day. Meanwhile, the Congress and the SAD (Punar Surjit), the breakaway Akali faction, will not hold any political rally this year.

CHANDIGARH DIARY

HARPREET BAJWA
Our correspondent in Chandigarh
hsbajwa73@gmail.com

Vikramaditya downplays missing poster row

Himachal PWD Minister Vikramaditya Singh, who recently returned from London, downplayed the issue of missing posters of his father and six-time CM Virbhadra Singh in the rally of the Congress in Mandi on the third anniversary celebrations of the government. "The image of Raja Virbhadra is etched in the hearts of millions of people of the state; posters do not make leaders. No one can deny that the present Congress government came to power in the name of Raja Saab," he said last week and added that the legacy of his father cannot be forgotten. Former state Congress chief Kuldeep Singh Rathore had openly criticised the omission.



Punjab Cong puts up a united front

With an eye on the 2027 Assembly polls, the Punjab Congress is stressing complete unity among the rank and file and reiterated that the party was committed to serving the people regardless of who becomes the CM post-victory. The party leaders were addressing the 'MGNREGA Bachao Sangram' rallies in Gurdaspur, Balachaur, Samrala, and other places. They asserted that the party's sole purpose was to return to power and that all leadership decisions would rest with the party high command. Seen as the principal challenger to AAP in the elections, the Congress was beset by internal differences that affected organisational cohesion.

Sidhu shares video of Badal's property

Cricketer-turned-politician Navjot Singh Sidhu, who was vacationing with his family in Himachal on the New Year, recently shared the video on the 'Badals'. He is seen interacting with a local woman. In the clip, Sidhu is seen inquiring about a nearby property, to which the local claims it belongs to the 'Badal family'. The local tells Sidhu that a road was made after the 'Badal family' bought the property. "A memorable trek in the Pir Panjal Mountain range," Sidhu wrote while sharing the video on Instagram. A curious Sidhu is heard asking the woman, "Badal Singh Ji Punjab wale?" and is also wanting to know "how Badal Singh Ji reached this trek."

MEGHALAYA

3 held for tribal man's murder amid unrest

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

MEGHALAYA CM Conrad K Sangma on Saturday appealed to people in the Garo Hills region to maintain peace and communal harmony, a day after one person was killed and another grievously injured in an attack by unidentified assailants.

Three persons from a particular community were arrested in connection with the incident which occurred at Rajabala village in West Garo Hills district bordering Bangladesh. Sangma said police were working to trace the rest of the accused.

"I would like to urge the citizens of Garo Hills to ensure that peace and communal harmony continue to prevail. There may be a lot of news circulated on social media. Please filter them," the CM said.

District authorities organised a peace meeting at Rajabala which was attended by members from various communities. The Garo Students' Union (GSU), Central Executive Committee, condemned the "savage and cold-blooded killing" of Dilseng M Sangma, who was a member of a Garo Hills-based NGO. It demanded the immediate identification, arrest, and prosecution of all those involved.

Three from Kashmir held for trying to offer namaz at Ram temple in Ayodhya

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

IN a major security breach, three persons, including a girl, were detained after they entered the Ram Janmabhoomi temple premises in Ayodhya and attempted to offer prayers on Saturday, prompting swift action by security personnel deployed on the premises.

According to officials and eyewitnesses, the group, two youths and a woman, claiming to be residents of Kashmir, entered the temple complex through the D1 gate. One of the youths reportedly sat near the temple kitchen and began offering 'namaz', after which security personnel intervened and took all three into custody for questioning. The detained individuals were wearing Kashmiri attire. One of them was identified as Abu Ahmed Sheikh, a resident of Shopian district.

The woman has been identified as Sofia, while the identity of the third youth is yet to be confirmed. Eyewitnesses said the trio raised religious slogans when they were stopped by security personnel.

Following the incident, intelligence agencies, local police, and senior administrative officials reached the spot. However, no official statement has so far been issued by the district administration, and the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust has also refrained from commenting on the issue.

Security arrangements
Given past terror threats, security arrangements at the complex remain extensive. Responsibility for the security of the Ram Janmabhoomi complex lies with the Special Security Force, a unit recently constituted by the UP government by integrating PAC and police personnel

Notably, the Ram temple premises witnesses an average footfall of around 1.5 lakh devotees daily since the consecration of Ram Lalla on January 22, 2024. Given past terror threats, security arrangements at the complex remain extensive.

Self-reliance is mantra for country's prosperity: Shah

RAJESH ASNANI @ Jaipur

EMPHASISING the need to promote 'Swadeshi' and 'Swabhasha,' Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday exhorted people to use local products and converse in one's mother tongue at home. He also urged traders to prioritise the sale of indigenous goods.

Addressing the Maheshwari Global Convention in Rajasthan's Jodhpur, Shah stressed, "The only way to reach the top is through self-reliance, and the mantra for this is 'Swadeshi.'"

"I appeal to everyone to manufacture products that are not currently made in the country," Shah added, linking it to the country's economic progress. "Over the past 11 years, India has gone from being the world's 11th largest economy to the fourth one," he expressed, exuding confidence that India is poised to emerge as the third largest economy next year.

"Another important aspect of self-reliance is language. People should embrace and promote their mother tongue," he noted, adding, "While learning different languages is necessary to progress globally, people should not forget their native language. Talk to your children in it. Speak in Marwari and Rajasthani so that they remain connected to their culture and history."

Union Home Minister Amit Shah, LS Speaker Om Birla, Union minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and CM Bhajan Lal Sharma in Jodhpur on Saturday | PTI

A key aspect of self-reliance is language. People should embrace their mother tongue. Converse with your children in it so that they remain connected to their culture and history —Amit Shah, Union Home Minister

Later in the day, Shah gave away appointment letters to 9,000 newly recruited police constables during a state-level ceremony at the Rajasthan Police Academy in Jaipur.

Addressing the gathering as the chief, Shah underscored that a state can develop only if it has sound law and order. Lauding CM Bhajanlal Sharma's government for the dip in crimes, Shah noted, "Since the Bhajanlal government was formed, there has been a 14% fall in total crimes. Heinous crimes have declined by 19%. Murder cases are down by 25%, attempt to murder by 19% and crimes against women by 10%." Shah added that atrocities against members of the SC/ST communities have also slumped by 28%, dacoity cases have plunged by 47% and robberies are down by 51%.

He further hailed the Bhajanlal government for ending the "paper leak culture," which he said took root during Congress rule. "A state can progress only when recruitments are carried out transparently. CM Bhajanlal has put an end to the series of paper leaks that had plagued the previous Congress government," Shah said.

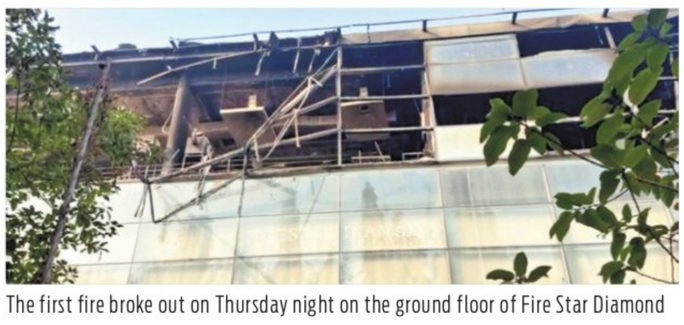
Fires at Nirav Modi diamond unit raise doubts

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA @ Ahmedabad

LATE-night fires on two consecutive nights inside a long-shuttered jewellery unit linked to fugitive diamond baron Nirav Modi have shaken Surat's Special Economic Zone, not just because the flames rose twice in two nights, but because each spark has ignited deeper questions about security, sabotage and a possible cover-up.

The first fire broke out on Thursday night on the ground floor of Fire Star Diamond, a company sealed years ago by the Enforcement Directorate at the SEZ on Sachin Road, Surat. Firefighters rushed in, contained the blaze, and believed the danger had passed. But the calm was short-lived.

Barely a day later, on Friday night, the fire returned, this time with fury. Flames erupted again from the ground floor, leapt upwards, and engulfed the first floor, sending thick plumes of smoke into the night sky. For nearly six relentless hours, firefighters battled the blaze. By then, the damage was total.



The first fire broke out on Thursday night on the ground floor of Fire Star Diamond

"Everything inside was reduced to ashes," a fire department source said. "AC units, computers, furniture, safes, machines, wiring, office files, stored goods nothing survived. Even important documents were completely burnt," he added.

The Fire Star Diamond unit has remained sealed for years after ED action, with electricity, water and drainage connections officially cut off.

Adding to the suspicion, the company's gates and windows broken. The discovery has sparked a troubling question: who entered the sealed unit and how inside a high-security SEZ? "This is not an open industrial area. Entry is tightly controlled," said a local official. "If someone accessed a sealed premises, it points to a serious security breach."

The silence from authorities has only deepened the intrigue. Notified Fire Control reportedly did not share detailed information about the incident, even as questions mounted about how such a blaze could occur unnoticed in a closed unit.

As cooling operations continued for hours, whispers grew louder: Were machinery or jewellery worth crores stored inside? Was any crucial evidence destroyed in the flames? And most importantly, was the fire accidental, or deliberately set?

Police have launched an investigation, but with documents reduced to ash and entry points mysteriously breached, the Fire Star Diamond blaze is fast turning into a high-stakes crime puzzle.

Authorities tight-lipped
The silence from authorities has only deepened the intrigue. Notified Fire Control reportedly did not share detailed information about the incident, even as questions mounted about how such a blaze could occur unnoticed in a closed unit. As cooling operations continued for hours, whispers grew louder about what must have happened.

C'garh agri sector posts robust growth in 2 years; food grains, pulses stay firm

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

THE agriculture sector in Chhattisgarh remains strong as the backbone of the state showing steady and inclusive growth over the past two years, officials said on Saturday.

Farmer-friendly policies, record paddy procurement, higher crop production, and financial support facilitated the agriculture growth, officials said, as Chhattisgarh under the Vishnu Deo Sai regime continues to play a key role in national food security while improving the income of farmers.

Fertiliser supply remained on target during both Kharif and Rabi seasons. Farmers also benefited from better irrigation and farm mechanisation. According to the essential data shared by the state agriculture with this newspaper, the sown area remained around 48.5 lakh hectares during the Kharif seasons.

Food grain production increased from about 107.65 lakh metric tonnes in 2023 to nearly 127 lakh metric tonnes in 2024 and 2025. Pulses and oilseeds also maintained steady growth, supporting crop diversification efforts.

Rabi farming has also shown positive results. The Rabi cropped area stayed close to 19 lakh hectares over the last two years. Pulse production increased from 4.94 lakh metric tonnes in 2023–24 to 6.77 lakh metric tonnes in 2024–25. Higher production targets have been set for the coming season to further strengthen pulse and oilseed cultivation.

The state has timely distributed around 10 lakh quintals of certified seeds during Kharif seasons and about 2 lakh quintals during Rabi seasons.

The Krishak Unnati Yojana has become a major support scheme for farmers. Under the scheme, paddy farmers received benefits equivalent to ₹3,100 per quintal. In 2024–25, about 25.5 lakh farmers received nearly ₹11,976 crore. From 2025–26, the scheme encourages farmers to shift from paddy to pulses, oilseeds, millets, maize, and cotton with special incentives. Paddy procurement has improved with the use of technology. Paddy is being purchased at 2,739 centres using biometric verification to ensure transparency.

Four miners in northern Afghanistan suffocated to death by fumes while digging for gemstones

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	29	19	SNY	Los Angeles	20	12	SNY
Colombo	29	23	TDS	Melbourne	17	5	LC
Dhaka	27	16	TDS	Moscow	4	2	SNY
Dubai	26	22	SNY	New York	2	-3	SNY
Houston	30	23	TDS	Singapore	27	25	TDS
Istanbul	33	21	SNY	Toronto	-6	-8	SNY
London	12	8	SNY	Washington	3	-2	SNY

Oppn seeks UK intervention in B'desh attack on minorities

LONDON

UK shadow foreign secretary Priti Patel has called on the British government to intervene in the 'increase in violence' in Bangladesh that has involved murders of Hindus and use its influence to bring about stability in the country.

The British Indian Opposition Conservative MP posted her letter to Foreign Secretary Yvette Cooper on social media on Friday, which also calls upon the Labour Party government to make a statement on the issue in the House of Commons.

"The situation in Bangladesh is very concerning. Religious freedoms should be protected and the murders of Hindus and persecution taking place are wrong and must stop," said Patel. "The UK government must use its influence and convening powers to work to bring about stability in Bangladesh and a future where religious freedoms are protected and Hindus as safe," she said.

In her letter to Cooper, the shadow minister points to reports of at least six Hindus being killed within an 18-day period in recent weeks. "This level of persecution and violence is unacceptable" Given the increase in violence, can you advise what steps have been taken over the last year to monitor and make representations?

"Given the wider political situation in Bangladesh, what work is underway with partners in the region to use our diplomatic influence and convening powers to bring about stability in Bangladesh and respect and protections for minorities," she questions in her letter. Meanwhile, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has condemned a 'disturbing pattern" of recurring attacks on minorities in Bangladesh.

"We continue to witness a disturbing pattern of recurring attacks on minorities as well as their homes and businesses by extremists. Such communal incidents need to be dealt with swiftly and firmly," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said. *PTI*

A residential building is damaged after a Russian air strike during a heavy snow storm in Kyiv, Ukraine | AP

Ukrainian drone attack sparks fire at Russian oil depot

KYIV

A Ukrainian drone strike sparked a fire at an oil depot in Russia's southern Volgograd region, officials said Saturday, after Russia launched a powerful hypersonic missile along with drones and other weapons that disrupted Kyiv's power supply and heating.

There were no immediate reports of casualties, Volgograd Gov. Andrei Bocharov was quoted as saying in a Telegram post published on the channel of the local administration. The post did not specify the damage, but said that people living near the depot may have to be evacuated.

Ukraine's General Staff said Saturday it had struck the Zhutovskaya oil depot overnight. In a statement on Telegram, it said the depot is supplying fuel to Russian forces, adding that damage was being assessed.

Ukraine's long-range drone strikes on Russian energy sites aim to deprive Moscow of the oil export revenue it needs to pursue its full-scale invasion. Russia wants to cripple the Ukrainian power grid, seeking to deny civilians access to heat, light and running water in what Kyiv officials say is an attempt to "weaponise winter."

Saturday's attack came the day after Russia bombarded Ukraine with hundreds of drones and dozens of missiles overnight into Friday, according to Ukrainian officials, killing at least four people in the capital. For only the second time in the nearly 4-year-old war, it used a powerful new hypersonic missile that struck western Ukraine in a clear warning to Kyiv's NATO allies. The intense barrage and the launch of the nuclear-capable Oreshnik missile followed reports of major progress in talks between Ukraine and its allies on how to defend the country from further Moscow aggression if a US-led peace deal is struck.

Stephane Dujarric, spokesman for the UN secretary-general, said Friday's attacks "have resulted in significant civilian casualties and deprived millions of Ukrainians of essential services, including electricity, heating and water at a time of acute humanitarian need." Ukrainian Prime Minister Yulia Svyrydenko said heat supply would be fully restored in Kyiv by the end of Saturday. *AFP*

Iran crackdown intensifies under internet blackout as protests rage

Rights groups warn of lethal force, rising deaths as communications shutdown is enforced

PARIS

RIGHTS groups expressed alarm on Saturday that Iranian authorities were intensifying a deadly crackdown under cover of an internet blackout on the biggest demonstrations in the Islamic republic in over three years after another night of mass protests.

The two weeks of protests have posed one of the biggest challenges to the theocratic authorities who have ruled Iran since the 1979 Islamic revolution, although supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei has expressed defiance and blamed the United States.

Following the movement's largest protests yet on Thursday, new demonstrations took place late Friday, according to images verified by AFP and other videos published on social media. This was despite an internet shutdown imposed by the authorities, with monitor Netblocks saying early Saturday that "metrics show the nationwide internet blackout remains in place at 36 hours".

Man standing near burning vehicles during night of mass protests in Zanjan, Iran | AP

Amnesty International said it was analysing "distressing reports that security forces have intensified their unlawful use of lethal force against protesters" since Thursday in an escalation "that has led to further deaths and injuries".

Iranian Nobel Peace Prize winner Shirin Ebadi warned on Friday that security forces could be preparing to commit a "massacre under the cover of a sweeping communications blackout". Norway-based Iran Human Rights group has said at least 51 people have been killed in the crackdown so far, but warned the actual toll could be higher.

It posted images it said were of corpses of people shot dead in the protests piled on the floor of Alghadir hospital in eastern Tehran. "These images provide further evidence of the excessive and lethal use of force against protesters," IHR said. Iranian authorities are using the "most blatant tools of repression", prize-winning filmmakers Mohammad Rasoulof and Jafar Panahi said.

In Tehran's Saadatabad district, people banged pots and chanted anti-government slogans including "death to Khamenei" as cars honked in support, a video verified by AFP showed. Other images disseminated on social media and by Persian-language television channels outside Iran showed similarly large protests elsewhere in the capital, as well as in the eastern city of Mashhad, Tabriz in the north and the holy city of Qom. *AFP*

Rahman appointed as BNP chairman

DHAKA: Tarique Rahman has been appointed as the chairman of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), days after the demise of his mother and party chairperson Khaleda Zia following a prolonged illness. The Standing Committee of the BNP approved the appointment of Rahman as the Chairman of the party in a meeting on Friday. BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir confirmed the appointment to the media after the meeting, *Dhaka Tribune* reported. Rahman, speaking at a meet-and-greet event on Saturday, said there is 'no reason' for the country to return to the political conditions that existed before the toppling of the Awami League regime on August 5, 2024, bdnews24.com reported.

Rescuers continue operations on a collapsed waste segregation facility in Binaliw, Cebu city, central Philippines | AP

'Signs of life' in Philippines garbage avalanche

MANILA

RESCUERS detected signs of life in an avalanche of garbage that killed at least four workers and left more than 30 others missing on Thursday in a central Philippines landfill and plan to intensify search efforts, an official said on Saturday. Twelve workers have been rescued with injuries from the huge mound of garbage that collapsed among the low-slung buildings of a waste management facility in the village of Binaliw in Cebu City, authorities said. Dozens of rescuers, including police, firefighters and disaster-response personnel, have raced against time to find more survivors in dangerous conditions in the rubble of twisted tin roofs, iron bars and combustible heaps of garbage and debris. "Authorities confirmed the presence of detected signs of life in specific areas, requiring continued careful excavation and the deployment of a more advanced 50-ton crane, which is enroute with police escort," Cebu City Mayor Nestor Archival said in a statement.

"Safety of responders remains paramount due to hazards such as unstable debris and acetylene risks, prompting adjustments to the security perimeter and controlled access," Archival said.

The four dead, including an engineer and a female office worker, were all employees of the landfill and waste management facility with a staff of 110, according to the mayor and police. The initial list of victims on Friday included two dead and 36 missing, which increased Saturday to four dead, according to Archival, who did not provide an updated number of people missing. The cause of the collapse of the mountain of garbage remains unclear, but a survivor told The Associated Press on Friday that it happened in an instant without any warning despite fairly good weather at the time. Jaylord Antigua, a 31-year-old office worker at the landfill, said the wall of garbage cascaded down and destroyed the administrative office he was in. He extricated himself with bruises on his face and arms by crawling in the darkness in the rubble and debris. *AP*

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client intends to purchase the property described in the schedule hereunder:

That **Mrs. CHITRA JOSEPH** W/o Mr. David Joseph Gandhi is the absolute independent owner of the Schedule Property in possession and enjoyment of the same interalia exercising all rights of ownership.

Mrs. Chitra Joseph informs to my client that the file containing original Confirmation letter of the auction sale No.3381, dated 08-12-2001 and Khatha certificate dated 23-01-2001 in respect of Schedule Property both issued by the Bangalore Development Authority are lost and on through search also she could not trace or find the same.

Any person/s having any claim, share, right, title or interest over the Schedule Property or any objection to the proposed purchase, may file their objection in writing along with supporting documents to the undersigned **within 7 days** from the date of this publication, failing which my client will be advised to go ahead and complete the sale formalities.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of their residential site bearing No.9AM-202, situated at Hennur Road, Banaswadi Road, 1st Block, Bangalore-560043, now coming under the jurisdiction of the Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, ward No.88 and BBMP E-Khath No.88-250-9AM-202, new Ward No.27, HRBR Layout, 1st Block, No.202, 9th 'A' Main. With construction standing thereon, Measuring East to West 12.5 meters, North to South 7.10 + 9.20/2 meters totally measuring 99.02 Sq. Meters bounded on the: **East by:** Site No.9B.M-201, **West by:** 9th 'A' Main Road, **North by:** 9AM-204, **South by:** 2nd 'G' Cross Road.

Mir Zia Ulla, Advocate
No.15/7, BDA Complex, Ground floor, Bangalore -560043. Cell No.9844068746

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
Follow us on @SCRailwayindia
Details of the Tender Notices of S.C Railway can be seen on our website : www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

E - Tender Notice No.GNT/SG/ 36/360, Dated: 08.01.2026 PUB/1745

The undersigned invites e-tenders for the works mentioned below up to **16:00 hrs of 02.02.2026.**

ID No.: 360 **Name of the work:** Provision of Aspiration type smoke detection system at 71 Nos Electronic Interlocking & Panel Interlocking Stations/Goomties over GNT division. **Advertised Tender Value (₹):** 7,09,31,449.24 **E.M.D/Bid-security (₹):** 5,04,700/- **Cost of Tender Document (₹):** NIL

1. If the date of opening of tenders happens to be declared holiday at later date, the tenders will be opened on the next working day at the stipulated time.

2. Last dates for online submission of E-bids are **02.02.2026 up to 16:00 hrs.** For detailed information logon to our website at **www.ireps.gov.in.**

3. Any further communication/ corrigendum shall only be intimated through E-portal **www.ireps.gov.in.**

Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer, Guntur

TENDER NOTICE NO: 54/2026 Dt.09.01.2026. SUPPLY OF STORES ITEMS e-Procurement Tender Notice PUB/1749

The Following Tenders Have Been Floated Online. Tenders Are Requested To Visit The Website **www.ireps.gov.in** And Submit Their Offers Online. The Tender Description, Qty, EMD, SD May Be Seen In Website. Offers Submitted Manually Will Not Be Accepted. Offers By Post Will Not Be Entertained. Tender Closing Time Is 14.30 Hrs Of The Due Date Of The Tender. "For All Indigenous Offers, EMD Will Be Accepted Only Via Online System As Available On **www.ireps.gov.in.**"

Tender No.	Brief Description
52255010B	Ip Based VSS for Electric locos
LN256561B	Air spring 140KN
33251513A	Brake Cylinder
33251514A	Higher Capacity Air spring Assembly
54255007B	Routers with WAN ports for Tier -2 and tier 3 locations of SCR
66259683	Procurement of valves etc, for Track Machine.
LN256561C	Higher capacity Air spring 180KN
66259544	Track Machine spares of plasser make
66259542	Procurement of Valve etc for Track Machine.
38252363	NON-Asbestos "L" type
LN265039	Road shunting vehicle of 135T
60258788	PSC Guard rail Sleepers to T-8970
82255015	HQ MED GTE LAPROSCOPE SET
82255007	HQ MED Modular Operation Theaters

Note:-Due dates of Tender Opening: SL.No.01 on dt.19.01.2026.SL.No. 02 on dt.23.01.2026. SL.No. 03 &04 on dt.27.01.2026 SL.No.05 on 29.01.2026. SL.No. 06 on dt30.01.2026 SL.No. 07 to11 on dt.02.02.2026 SL.No. 12 ondt.05.02.2026 SL.No.13to15 on dt.09.02.2026

CORRIGENDUM

1) Tender Notice No.50/2025 dt. 12.12.2025 Tender No.33255011A due on 09.01.2026 Brieff ;Set of 21 items for fabrication of LHB FIAT Bogie Frames may be read as Due date 19.01.2026 instead of existing

Beside Above Mentioned Tenders There Are Other Tenders Having Value Above **Rs.50 Lakhs.**

For Details, Please Visit Railway Website Above.

Principal Chief Materials Manager/Secunderabad
A2215

For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at https://www.ireps.gov.in or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT, our client is intending to enter into Joint Development Agreement (JDA) and General Power of Attorney (GPA) for the development of the Schedule Property from its owners. If any person/s, entity, firm, institution(corporate or otherwise) having any claim/s any right, title, interest, pending litigation or demand of any nature in or upon the schedule property and any part thereof or against the said owners , the same may be brought to the notice of the undersigned in writing together with all the details along with supporting documents with in **Seven (07) days** from the date of this notice. Failing to do so, it shall be presumed that the ownership and title of the owners in relation to the schedule property is clear, marketable and free from encumbrances/s of any kind whatsoever, and our client will then proceed to complete their proposed transaction with respect to the schedule property. Further, claims or alleged interests, if any, which are not received within **07 days** from the date of publication of this notice shall be deemed to have been consciously waived and disregarded for all intents and purposes and shall thereafter not be binding on our client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcels of the lands situated at **Ramasagara Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore urban District.**

Sl. No.	Sy. No	Acres	Guntas	BOUNDARIES EAST	WEST	NORTH	SOUTH
1	124/1	2	8	Sy.No.124/2 & 124/3	Sy.No.117	Sy.No.118	Sy.No.126
2	126/1	1	8	Sy.No.31	Sy.No.125	Sy.No.123 & 124	Sy.No.126/4
3	126/4	1	8	Sy.No.31	Sy.No.125	Sy.No.126/1	Sy.No.126/2
4	120/6	0	28	Sy.No.12	Sy.No.120/8	Sy.No.120/5	Sy.No.120/7
5	121/1	0	30	Sy.No.31/1	Sy.No.121/5	Sy.No.120/7	Sy.No.121/2
6	121/2	1	3	Sy.No.31/ & 31/2	Sy.No.121/3 & 121/4	Sy.No.121/1	Sy.No.31/3
7	121/5	0	30	Sy.No.121/1	Sy.No.123/1	Sy.No.120/7	Sy.No.121/3 & 122
8	120/12	0	13.04	Sy.No.120/1	Sy.No.119	Sy.No.120/9	Sy.No.120/8
9	120/9	0	13.04	Sy.No.120/1	Sy.No.119/2	Land of Gundurappa	Sy.No.120/1
10	122	0	32	Sy.No.121/3 & 121/4	Sy.No.123/1	Sy.No.121/5	Sy.No.31/4
11	121/3	0	18	Sy.No.121/2	Sy.No.122	Sy.No.121/1 & 121/5	Sy.No.121/4
12	121/4	0	17	Sy.No.121/2	Sy.No.122	Sy.No.121/3	Sy.No.31/3 & 31/4
13	31/3	2	39	Sy.No.8 & 9	Sy.No.31/4	Sy.No.31/2	Sy.No.56/1
14	31/2	1	5	Sy.No.10	Sy.No.121/2	Sy.No.31/1	Sy.No.31/3
15	31/4	0	17.08	Sy.No.31/3	Sy.No.126/1, 2, 3 & 32	Sy.No.122 & 121/4	Sy.No.56/1
16	123/1	1	5.04	Sy.No.123/3	Sy.No.124	Sy.No.123/2	Sy.No.126
17	123/2	1	5.04	Sy.No.123/3	Sy.No.124	Sy.No.120	Sy.No.123/1
18	124/2	1	1	Sy.No.123	Sy.No.124/1	Sy.No.118	Sy.No.124/3
19	124/3	1	0	Sy.No.123	Sy.No.124/1	Sy.No.124/2	Sy.No.126
		TOTAL 19 A					

Dated this 10th day of January, 2026,

M/s. Jury Legal Solutions, Advocates,
No. 8, 14th Cross, 14th Main, 4th Sector, HSR Layout, Bangalore-560102. Ph: 9999673483/9902195500/9844897355

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my client **Mrs. Jayavani, W/o D. Rangaraju,** residing at Bangalore, has acquired the property through a registered Sale Deed dated 14.02.2022, vide Document No. JPN-1-08788-2021, from Mr. S. R. Sathyanarayana. The said property is bearing Property No. 701, formed in Sy. No. 107, presently bearing Khata No. 107 and Old Khata No. 717, situated at Gottigere Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore District, measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet, in all measuring 1200 square feet.It is further stated that the original Gift Deed dated 16.01.2009, bearing Document No. JPN-1-05495/2008-09, and the original Cancellation of Gift Deed dated 10.04.2014, bearing Document No. 289/2014-15, pertaining to the above property, have been lost. A complaint in this regard has been lodged vide Lost Report No. 2002542/2026 dated 10.01.2026.If any person finds the aforesaid original documents, they are requested to contact the undersigned **within 7 days** from the date of this publication at the office address given below.

MEGHANA G, Advocate,
#11, 2nd floor, KSV Building, Millers Road, Vasanthnagar, Bengaluru-560052
Mobile: 9611542429.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our client **Mr.Mervyn S S/o Mr.Stanley Sampath Kumar P and Mrs.Mavis S D/o Mr.Stanley Sampath Kumar P** both are intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **Mrs.Aura Cherian W/o Mr.Cherian Sebastian** person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof on or before **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our clients shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of a portion of land measuring **2400 Square Feet** measuring East to West – **40 Feet** and North to South – **60 Feet** out of Schedule A Property bearing Kannur Grama Panchayat Khatha No. 1890/116/7, Property Identification No. 150200400200222982, situated at **Kannur Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore** being part of converted Sy. No. 116/7, & bounded on the **East by : Property belonging to Believers Church in Sy. No. 116/7, Kannur Village. West by : Remaining land in Sy. No. 116/7, Kannur Village, North by : Private Land in Sy. No. 116/4, Kannur Village, South by : 30 Feet wide Road**

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants Bangalore-43
M : 9845846428, 9108784843
E- Mail: rvlaw.76@gmail.com

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to General Public that my client Sri. Nagarajaiah, presently residing at Nelamangala, has lost the following original documents, related to schedule property mentioned below and the same is not traceable. (a) Sale deed, dated 25/06/1994, executed by the Sri. Hanumaiah S/o. Late. Sri. Muthaiah, in favour of Sri. C.Nagarajaiah S/o. Sri. Chinappa, registered as document no. 593/1994-1995, Book I, Volume no. 1706, Page nos 71 to 74, on 16/08/1994, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Nelamangala, with respect to selling the property bearing Sy. no. 14/1, to the extent of 01 Acre 01 Gunta, of Kotnahalli Village, and bounded on: East by : Land belonging to Sri. C. Nagarajaiah; West by : Land belonging to Sri. C. Nagarajaiah; North by: Bund; South by : Land belonging to Sri. C. Nagarajaiah (b) Sale deed, dated 24/07/1995, executed by the Sri. Narasimhaiah @ Bullaiah S/o. Late. Sri. DoddaNarasimhaiah, in favour of Sri. C. Nagarajaiah S/o. Sri. Chinappa, registered as document no. 1955/1995-1996, Book I, Volume no. 1744, Page nos. 100 to 102, on 30/12/1995, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Nelamangala, with respect to selling the property bearing Sy. nos. 13/1,along with other properties to the extent of 03 Acres 11 Guntas, of Kotnahalli Village and bounded on: East by :Gomala;West by : Land belonging to Sri. C. Nagarajaiah; North by :Gomala; South by: Land belonging to Sri. Narayanappa.

If found inform to Smt. B. Mallika, Advocate, whose address is mentioned as below, within eight days from the date of publication.

MALLIKA.B Advocate
No.19, Ground Floor, 1st 'E' Cross, J. S. Nagar, Nandinilayout, Bangalore- 96. Ph: 9742658187

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grooms

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PUBLIC NOTICE

BE IT KNOWN TO ALL that our client(s) intend(s) to purchase the below-mentioned Schedule Property from **Sri. Chikkaramaiah S/o. Sri. Yallappa,** who claims to be the absolute owner, having purchased the same from **Sri. H. Srinivas S/o. Late Sri. Hanumanthappa** and his family members under a **Sale Deed dated 14-03-2022** which was registered as **Document No.DNH-1-12545-2021-22 of Book-I and stored in CD No.DNHD1488** in the **Office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Devanahalli,** Bangalore.

Any person(s) / institution(s) objecting to the proposed sale or asserting any manner of lawful / tenable right, title, interest or share over the said property or part thereof, is / are required to lodge their objections/claims preferably with photo-copies of documents based on which they object to the said sale or stake their claim, only by Speed Post with acknowledgement due, so as to reach at the below-mentioned address within **7 (seven) days** from the date of this publication, failing which our client(s) shall proceed to purchase the said properties as if there are no claims of any nature thereon, and all claims even if existing, shall be deemed to have been waived off / abandoned. Any objections/claims received after the said period, or personal representation(s) or communication by any other mode shall not be entertained / considered under any circumstances, and shall not be binding on our client(s).

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of the lands to the extent of **18½ Guntas** in **Sy. No.177/2** of **Karahalli Village, Kundanahalli Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District,** Bangalore and bounded on the:

EAST by : Lands belonging to Sri. Devaraju S/o. Sri. Nanjappa;
WEST by : Road;
NORTH by : Lands in Sy. No.1771/1;
SOUTH by : Lands belonging to Sri. Byregowda.

ABHAY KUMAR P. JAIN & V. RAMKUMAR, Advocates
LexJuris, No.202, PANCHARATHNA RACE-VIEW APARTMENTS No.15/1, 6th Cross, Gandhinagar, BANGALORE- 560 009.

PUBLIC NOTICE

BE IT KNOWN TO ALL that our client(s) intend(s) to purchase the below-mentioned Schedule Property totally measuring about **2700 sq. feet** from - **(1) Smt. Munira Begum, (2) Sri. Yusuf Khan @ Babu,** and **(3) Sri. Feroz Khan;** who claim to be the absolute owners, having acquired the same as under:

a) **Smt. Munira Begum** had acquired **1125 sq. feet,** bearing **Municipal No.27/1,** PID No.31-36-27/1, E-PID No.1056745212 (Southern portion) in the Schedule Property from her husband **Late Sri. Amir Khan** under a **Gift Deed dated 15-12-2006,** registered as **Document No.SRI-1-04469-2006-07** of **Book-I** and stored in **CD No.SRID60** in the **Office of the Sub-Registrar, Rajajinagar (Srirampuram),** Bangalore.

b) **Sri. Yusuf Khan @ Babu** had acquired **500 sq. feet,** bearing **Municipal No.27,** PID No.31-36-27 (North-Western portion) in the Schedule Property under a **Will dated 15-12-2006** executed by his father **Sri. Amir Khan,** registered as **Document No.SRI-3-00245-2006-07** of **Book-III** and stored in **CD No.SRID60** in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, **Rajajinagar (Srirampuram),** Bangalore.

c) **Sri. Feroz Khan** had acquired **625 sq. feet,** bearing **Municipal No.27/2,** PID No.31-36-27/2 (North-Eastern portion) in the Schedule Property under the above said **Will dated 15-12-2006** executed by his father **Sri. Amir Khan.**

d) The said apportionment of the Northern portion of the Schedule Property was confirmed by **Sri. Yusuf Khan @ Babu** and **Sri. Feroz Khan** under a **Partition Deed dated 27-08-2021** which was registered as **Document No.VJN-1-02100-2021-22** of **Book-I** and stored in **CD No.VJND870** in the Office of the **Sub-Registrar, Rajajinagar (Vijayanagar), Bangalore,** followed by a **Registered Rectification Deed dated 21-12-2021,** registered as Document No.VJN-1-05312-2021-22 of Book-I and stored in CD No.VJND950 in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Rajajinagar (Vijayanagar), Bangalore.

e) The common passage in the middle measuring 5 feet X 90 feet, totally measuring about **450 sq. feet** is included in the Schedule Property

Any person(s) / institution(s) objecting to the proposed sale or asserting any manner of lawful / tenable right, title, interest or share over the Schedule Property or part thereof, is / are required to lodge their objections/claims preferably with photo-copies of documents based on which they object to the said sale or stake their claim, only by Speed Post with acknowledgement due, so as to reach at the below-mentioned address within **7 (seven)** days from the date of this publication, failing which our client(s) shall proceed to purchase the Schedule Property as if there are no claims of any nature thereon, and all claims even if existing, shall be deemed to have been waived off / abandoned. Any objections/claims received after the said period, or personal representation(s) or communication by any other mode shall not be entertained / considered under any circumstances, and shall not be binding on our client(s).

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of the portions bearing **Municipal Nos.27, 27/1 & 27/2** (being portions of the property bearing **Municipal No.27**) situated at **9th Cross, Kempapura Agrahara, Bhuvaneshwarinagar, Bangalore** in Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) **Old Ward No.31, New Ward No.121 (Binnypet Ward),** measuring:

EAST to WEST : 90 feet
NORTH to SOUTH : 30 feet

Totally measuring about **2700 sq. feet** and bounded on the:

EAST by : Property belonging to Sri. Gowda Muddanna;
WEST by : Road;
NORTH by : Property belonging to Sri. Rajaiah;
SOUTH by : Property belonging to Sri. M. Hanumanthappa.

ABHAY KUMAR P. JAIN & V. RAMKUMAR, Advocates
LexJuris, No.202, PANCHARATHNA RACE-VIEW APARTMENTS No.15/1, 6th Cross, Gandhinagar, BANGALORE- 560 009.

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4.4% — US unemployment rate in December. Employement growth slowed more than expected in December amid job losses in the construction, retail and manufacturing sectors

Since 2020, India has attracted **$12-15** billion in data centre investments

Uninterrupted power supply is critical for the centres & **55%** of India's power still comes from non-renewable sources

Deloitte's report Attracting estimates that India will need more **45-50** million sq ft of land by 2030, compared with about **13** million sq ft in 2023

SRIDHAR MANTHA OF HAPPIEST MINDS TECHNOLOGIES SAYS AI WORKLOADS ARE HIGHLY SENSITIVE TO EVEN MINOR POWER FLUCTUATIONS

POWER PLAY

India generates nearly **20%** of the world's data but hosts only about **3%** of global data centre capacity

Most data centres are located in Mumbai and Chennai due to uninterrupted power supply, undersea cable landing stations, faster internet speeds,

As of 2024, data centres consumed about **0.8%** of India's total electricity, which is likely to rise to **2.6%** by 2030

Data centres to trigger India's power struggle

They will account for 2.6% of total electricity consumption in India by 2030

SANAL SUDEVAN @ Chennai

INDIA has an ambitious target of becoming a global hub for data centres and is aggressively pushing the sector through policies such as the Digital Personal Data Protection (DPDP) Act and incentives for companies to set up facilities in Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities.

Since 2020, India has attracted $12-15 billion in data centre investments. "This momentum accelerated after the 2022 Union Budget granted infrastructure status to data centres, opening the door for institutional capital and long-term debt financing," said Raghu Pareddy, Founder and CEO of Wissen Technology. The country is expected to attract an additional $20-25 billion by 2030.

India generates nearly 20% of the world's data but hosts only about 3% of global data centre capacity, meaning much of the data generated domestically is stored overseas. Experts estimate that India's data centre capacity could rise to 10-12 GW by 2030 from the current 1.7 GW, but that would require heavy investment in land, power and grid infrastructure. The expansion of data centres is expected to drive real estate growth in Tier-2 and -3 cities as well as semi-urban areas. According to a CBRE South Asia report, India saw investment commitments of over $60 billion between 2019 and 2024, while other estimates suggest around $15 billion has flowed into the sector since 2020.

Deloitte's report Attracting AI Data Centre Infrastructure Investment in India estimates that India will need an additional 45-50 million sq ft of land by 2030, compared with about 13 million sq ft in 2023. It also notes that India is among the cheapest locations globally on a per-megawatt cost to set up data centres. S Anjani Kumar, Partner, Deloitte India, said nearly 60-70% of data centres are located in Mumbai and Chennai due to uninterrupted power supply, undersea cable landing stations, faster internet speeds, lower latency and availability of skilled talent. "Centres an be set up in remote locations, where land is cheaper, but lack of access to undersea cables can increase latency," he said.

Uninterrupted power supply is critical for data centres. Around 55% of India's power still comes from non-renewable sources. Until recently, most facilities were built for CPU-based workloads, but newer centres are increasingly GPU-enabled to support AI, requiring highly reliable power.

As of 2024, data centres consumed about 0.8% of India's total electricity, a figure may rise to 2.6% by 2030 — around 57 TWh. Since power accounts for nearly 65% of operating costs, operators are increasingly blending multiple energy sources, Pareddy noted.

While the Centre has set a target of 900 GW of power generation capacity by 2030, a TERI report — Exploring electricity supply-mix scenarios for 2030 — projects capacity of about 593 GW by then. "Most facilities still depend on state grids dominated by thermal power. To improve reliability, especially in North India, states are offering dual-grid access, special tariffs and renewable energy incentives," Pareddy said.

Ensuring uninterrupted power remains a key challenge. Sridhar Mantha, CEO of the Generative AI Business at Happiest Minds Technologies, says AI workloads are highly sensitive to even minor power fluctuations. "Cooling efficiency and fibre redundancy become critical, especially as expansion moves beyond metros. Power, connectivity, water and land must be planned together, with greater adoption of energy-efficient cooling, renewable integration and storage," he said.

Rajesh Chhabra, General Manager, India & South Asia, Acronis, says, "As facilities grow larger and more integrated, ensuring uninterrupted operations and protection against cyber threats becomes harder. The solution lies in building data centres with security by design — integrating redundancy, zero-trust principles and failback capabilities from day one," he said.

NEWSCOPE

DONROE DOCTRINE AND US' NEO-IMPERIALISM

GURBIR SINGH

JUST when you thought Donald Trump had crossed all red lines and he couldn't do anything crazier, he surprises you by stretching the limits of unacceptability.

The invasion of Caracas, and the abduction of Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro and his wife Cilia Flores in the dead of night on January 3 by elite US Delta commandos set off a global gasp. Many are still recovering from the images of an injured Maduro and his wife being hauled in prison uniform from armored vans before a New York judge.

Since January 3, events have sweeping the world without a moment to digest the new world order. After bombing the Venezuelan capital, Donald Trump has announced he intends to "run" the country via the new President and Maduro's second-in-command, Delcy Rodriguez. For starters, he has seized a couple of oil tankers and ordered Venezuela to turn over 30 to 50 million barrels of oil to the US as reparation.

He has also turned his attention to other pesky opponents like President Gustavo Petro of Columbia, calling him "a sick man who likes to make cocaine and sell it to the US."

It all started with posing Maduro and others as suppliers of drugs, and pushing criminals in the garb of immigrants. But everyone knew it was all about controlling America's backyard, and accessing its oil and other resources.

Unlike the shadowy language and anonymity of CIA operations ordered by past US presidents, Trump and his team don't mince words. Secretary of State Marco Rubio, whose origins are from the Cuban exile community, hinted Cuba was in U.S.' sights when he said: "If I lived in Havana and I was in the government, I'd be concerned at least a little bit."

Pete Hegseth, US Secretary of Defense, was more forthright when he said his goal was of "reestablishing American deterrence and dominance in the Western Hemisphere". In a clear statement of US' unabashed imperialist intent he added: "Our adversaries remain on notice. America can project our will anywhere, anytime."

The Munroe Doctrine

It's now all about establishing the Munroe Doctrine afresh. It was the fifth US President, James Munroe, who in 1823, enunciated the parameters of early US imperialist policy. What came to be known as the Munroe Doctrine, divides the world into spheres of influence overseen by different powers.

Munroe in his address to Congress, warned European powers not to interfere in the affairs of the Americas, which would be overseen by the United States. Any interference or action by the European countries would be viewed as an attack on the US. In return, he promised the US would recognise and not interfere with existing European colonies or the internal affairs of European countries.

MANDAR PARDIKAR

In more recent years, the US has applied the Munroe Doctrine to ensure hostile regimes don't exist in its backyard. Salvador Allende, an elected Communist leader of Chile, was ousted and killed in 1973 via a US-aided coup led by General Augusto Pinochet. Using the same doctrine, President Ronald Reagan later in the 1980s intervened in the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Nicaragua to ensure 'friendly banana republics.'

President Trump's brazen attempts at regime change in left-leaning Venezuela and Cuba are just the new variations of the Munroe Doctrine. At stake is also Venezuela's 303 billion barrels of oil, the largest known reserves in the world.

Trump by words and actions has made it clear: Hostile regimes not in line with US policy will not be permitted in South America. Giving in to his penchant to rename everything after himself, he derisively has called it "the Donroe Document." But what is a game changer is the US President now seeking to tear up even US' post colonial alliances like NATO that have held their ground since second World War. We are talking of Greenland. By seeking to now annex on grounds of 'national security' the self-governing Danish principality, rich in rare earth minerals, the Trump regime has roiled Europe in a fresh crisis.

Since Denmark is a NATO member, annexation of Greenland could well mean the end of NATO as we know it. On Ukraine, the European nations have already formed an axis sans the US — the 'Coalition of the Willing'. It may not be too long before the US and Europe part ways altogether. Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen has warned a US military attack on Greenland could effectively end NATO.

Significantly, the ambitions of the US regime for controlling the world order go beyond the Western Hemisphere. In recent days, President Trump has threatened Iran with more military intervention if the latter does not stop "repressive measures" against protesters. On December 25, 2025, the US launched deadly strikes in Nigeria against what it claimed were Islamic State camps.

As the 'Donroe' juggernaut rolls on, India too is facing the rough end of the stick. On Thursday, President Trump decided to back a private bipartisan bill being moved in the US Congress mandating up to 500% tariffs on countries buying Russian oil. Though not naming India, the legislation will hit India hard considering she is the second largest importer of Russian crude after China. The bill could be moved for passage as soon as a week from now.

India's on going negotiations with the US on a trade deal was paused because Prime Minister Narendra Modi did not make a telephone call to President Donald Trump to iron out differences, US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick said.

As it is India is paying the highest tariffs on goods exported to the US at 50% since August. Neo-imperialism comes is all forms.

Warburg invests ₹960 crore in Lemon Tree

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

LEMON Tree Hotels Limited announced on Friday a comprehensive reorganisation of its business and a significant investment from global private equity major Warburg Pincus. The Board of Directors of Lemon Tree Hotels has approved a Composite Scheme of Arrangement designed to split the group into two distinct, high-growth platforms. Concurrently, Warburg Pincus, through its affiliate Coastal Cedar Investments BV, will acquire APG Strategic Real Estate Pool NV's entire 41.09% stake in Fleur Hotels Limited, a subsidiary of Lemon Tree. Warburg Pincus has also committed to infuse up to ₹960 crore of primary capital into Fleur to fuel its expansion.

The plan, subject to regulatory and shareholder approvals, will result in transforming Lemon Tree Hotels into a pure-play, asset-light hotel management, franchising, and digital brand platform, while evolving Fleur Hotels Limited from a subsidiary into a large-scale, growth-oriented hotel ownership and development platform, combining existing assets with a robust pipeline.

NSE to get NOC for public listing by January-end: SEBI chairman Pandey

SANAL SUDEVAN @ Chennai

SECURITIES and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey said on Saturday the markets regulator will give no objection certificate (NOC) to NSE public issue by January-end. Speaking to reporters in Chennai, Pandey said: "We will give the NOC to NSE by this month end and listing and other procedures regarding IPO should be taken care of by them."

After the Sebi NOC, It would take another 6-8 months for the exchange to get its shares

listed on the bourses. The country's largest exchange has been planning an IPO for years but got mired in a slew of regulatory issues including the colocation case and the sordid personal failings of its past CEO Chitra Ramkrishna.

On SME IPO listing and its volatility, the SEBI chief said that the regulator does not look into valuation and prices. "We are looking into disclosures which should be robust. Recently, we have changed the advertisement pattern. Earlier, it used to be difficult to decipher whether an IPO is a main board or SME board as the content would be buried in the last of the ads. Under new ad norms, the details are available about the extent and size of an IPO."

States oppose changes in MGNREGA in pre-Budget meet

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

STATES have vehemently opposed the proposed changes in MGNREGA, and called for more fiscal space during a pre-Budget consultation chaired by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday.

Many states have expressed strong reservations regarding the replacement of the demand-driven MGNREGA with the new Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajivika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G). Some states also raised the issue of revenue loss due to GST rationalisation.

Punjab Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema argued that the new model dilutes the employment guarantee and transfers a significant financial burden to states. He called for the restoration of the original demand-driven structure and funding pattern of the scheme.

Proposed MGNREGA changes weaken employment guarantee, burden states, he said. Telangana Finance Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka said the Centre, without consulting states, has replaced the MGNREGA.

In the new Act, the scheme has been made from 90:10 to 60:40, thus imposing further burden on already strained resources of the states. Also, any additional man-days, which are above the normative allocation, will be the responsibility of the states. This will create a serious obstacle in providing demand-based work, he said. "This is entirely against the spirit of cooperative federalism and starving them of funds for capital outlay, which is essential for maintaining growth momentum," he said.

The meeting was attended by the Minister of State for Finance, several Chief Ministers, and Finance Ministers from across the country. While the Union government highlighted that over ₹4.25 lakh crore in 50-year interest-free loans have been released to states since 2020-21 under the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment, individual states presented a more precarious financial picture.

Kerala Finance Minister KN Balagopal submitted a detailed proposal seeking a Special Fiscal Correction Package to bridge a resource gap exceeding ₹21,000 crore. He noted a ₹17,000 crore cut in the state's borrowing limit.

Karnataka's Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda highlighted that despite being a major growth contributor, the state is under "mounting pressure".

All India Major Port cultural meet held at Paradip Port

The 25th All India Major Port Cultural Meet 2025-26 was inaugurated on Thursday at Jayadev Sadan, Paradip Port. The four-day cultural event is being organised by Paradip Port Authority under the aegis of the Major Ports Sports Control Board PL Haranadh, Chairman, Paradip Port Authority, inaugurated the meet as chief guest. Addressing the gathering, he said that culture reflects the inner beauty of the human soul and plays an important role in promoting unity and harmony. He stated that it was a matter of pride for Paradip Port to host the 25th edition of the cultural meet in Odisha, a state renowned for its rich cultural heritage, classical Odissi dance and artistic excellence.

MSETCL conducts advanced training on EHV transformer testing in Thane district

In a move aimed at strengthening technical excellence and workforce capability, Maharashtra State Electricity Transmission Company Ltd (MSETCL) organised a five-day advanced training programme on "Transformer Testing & Troubleshooting – Best Practices in O&M including EHV Bushings" at Kalwa from December 29, 2025, to January 2, 2026. It was conducted in collaboration with Siemens Energy India Ltd. The specialised training focused on Extra High Voltage (EHV) transformer design, manufacturing processes, advanced testing methods, maintenance practices and real-time troubleshooting techniques. Participating engineers were taken on guided shop-floor visits to the Siemens Energy transformer manufacturing facility.

Business & Beyond

19-year-old Indian entrepreneur showcases AI-powered sports tech at CES 2026

Smartan.ai, India's leading AI-powered sports technology company backed by cricket legend Ravi Shastri, showcased its groundbreaking injury prevention and rehabilitation platform at the prestigious CES 2026 (Consumer Electronics Show) in Las Vegas from January 6-9, 2026. The company's Co-Founder and CTO, 19-year-old Sanjay Thiyagarajan, is among the youngest entrepreneurs to present at the world's most influential technology event. CES is the world's largest and most prestigious technology trade show, attracting over 130,000 attendees from 150+ countries, including CEOs from Fortune 500 companies, venture capitalists, media, and technology leaders. The event showcases innovations from industry giants like Nvidia, Samsung, Sony, Google, Microsoft, and Intel, alongside breakthrough startups reshaping the future of technology.

UP govt engages with pharma firms, Industry Body in Hyderabad

A high-level delegation from the UP govt, led by Awnish Kumar Awasthi, IAS, Advisor to the Chief Minister, held meetings with Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd., Aurore Life Science, Ramky Group, and the Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI) in Hyderabad to explore investments in pharmaceutical manufacturing, medical research, and sustainable industrial infrastructure. The discussions highlighted investment-ready sites such as Lalitpur Pharma Park, Hathras Industrial Area, Bulandshahr, and Sandila, with companies expressing interest in manufacturing facilities, research, and infrastructure partnerships.

Naveen Jindal opens learning model labs at Jindal Steel

In a significant step towards strengthening skill development and fostering a future-ready workforce, Naveen Jindal, MP (Kurukshetra) and Chairman of Jindal Steel, today inaugurated the state-of-the-art Learning Model Labs at the Naveen Jindal Skill Centre, Angul. It underscores the company's strong commitment to enhancing technical excellence, safety standards, and hands-on capabilities among its employees and business partners by aligning learning with real-world industrial applications. Jindal urged all workers to embrace training initiatives with complete dedication and enthusiasm.

Malaysia Open: Sindhu loses to Wang in semifinals

Ace Indian shuttler PV Sindhu's impressive run came to an end after a straight-game defeat to China's Wang Zhi Yi in the women's singles semifinals of the season-opening Malaysia Open Super 1000 at Kuala Lumpur on Saturday. The two-time Olympic medallist committed too many unforced errors in a 16-21, 15-21 loss.

NQOBANI, NEW SHINING PAARL

Teenager is lighting up SA20 league. **Gomesh S** tracks pacer's journey from KwaMashu township in Durban to biggest T20 meet in SA

Sunday Special

OH, oh oh, I can't even... I'm very proud of him," says an emotional Princess Mokoena when asked how proud she is of her son and young Paarl Royals fast bowler Nqobani. "Oh, he is like a son to the family, not only to me." Nqobani, at 19, is already one of the pacers to watch out for. And he is making waves in the ongoing SA20 league. In the six matches he has played so far, Nqobani has taken nine wickets at an average 21.44 average and 8.77 economy, receiving accolades from legends, including Dale Steyn. The praise does not come without merit. The lanky seamer, who was part of South Africa U19 team at the 2024 World Cup, has been hitting the speed guns and winning matches for his team.

However, the story of Nqobani is not just about his cricketing skills and the sheer pace he generates. It is about a young boy from KwaMashu (one of the townships established under the Aparthied era in the 1950s to relocate Black South Africans) who survived poverty, crime and other struggles to keep his cricketing dream alive, grabbing every chance that came his way.

Nqobani was raised by Princess, a single mother who works as an assistant in a private firm, with help from her parents. His late grandfather, who used to box back in the day, encouraged Nqobani to stick to cricket when football was the popular sport in the township. Growing up in a 12-member family with his grandmother, elder brother Senzo, along with Princess and her sisters, Nqobani was as mischievous as any young kid in the township. He used to skip classes and play cricket.

"Being a single parent is not easy at all," Princess recalls during a phone call. "It's even worse if you don't have a better job. I can't remember the age he was, but it wasn't easy for me to buy cricket clothes and boots as they were too expensive. Kids in the township don't focus on school, don't focus on their talent, and don't respect their family. It's a place where you have to accept that you are in a township, but it's a place that you don't want to be when you get a better life.

"In the township, you must have a good parent who is very strict. A parent who will teach you to go to church. If you miss that, you won't survive. Because you will end up in the streets you must have trust in God. That's what keeps me going. I've been praying for this for so many years.

Young Nqobani with his township teammates (top) and his mother Princess (R), a single parent who has been instrumental in his rise

I've seen this child. He has a passion for cricket. He has given me respect. I have told him to go to church. You always make sure that he wants a better life," she explains. Initially, Nqobani did his schooling at Phoenix, which is where the family could afford at the time. Even then, he did not have money for lunch, but Nqobani never gave up. His mother switched jobs, tried to support him as much as she could but that change in life came through Khalipha Cele, a former KwaZulu-Natal (Natal) cricketer. Cele saw the potential in Nqobani and took him to Northwood School, where he was offered a full sports scholarship.

"I think for his age," Nantie Hayward, director of cricket at Northwood, tells this daily, "he was just a little bit faster than the normal kids. We always knew that Mokoena got something special with him and he can bat as well as an all-rounder. He was a raw, quiet kind of person. He doesn't really say a lot. He would just sit and listen. But as he got used to us, the school environment and the coaches, he started opening up and just became the Mokoena we all know," the former SA pacer adds.

Initially, it took some convincing from the school, but Hayward vowed to do everything he could for the teenager.

Once Nqobani settled in Northwood, there was no looking back. Steadily he rose through the ranks, got selected for South Africa U19 in the 2024 World Cup, and then a Dolphins contract came along. Before the ongoing SA20 season, Nqobani had played only six senior T20Is, as many List-A games and two first-class matches. However, Royals saw the potential in him. The U23 clause helped (a team should have at least two U23 players) and they signed him at the auction for 200000 ZAR. One could sense the excitement in Princess' voice when asked about watching Nqobani on TV. "Every match that he plays, we have a family prayer," she says. "We make noise, scream, bang the doors and everything."

While the 19-year-old has moved out of KwaMashu, the family still resides in the township. Even when he visits, Nqobani stays at home for a while before returning to his place. "His safety is our safety," says Princess, who also understands the positive influence his success has had in the township. "It has brought a huge difference. Cricket has brought light to the people, to their lives. In our township, if you take up football, you end up playing around the town, but cricket has helped him with school work, better education, and also getting to where he wants to be in future. The kids here are starting to train for cricket now," she adds. Nqobani, too, can see the difference. "A lot of people have been calling, messaging me, wishing me luck. Good to see a lot of people take an interest in cricket," said the teenager who looks up to KG Rabada.

Over the last week or so, the one thing every significant name in South African cricket — be it Steyn, Graeme Smith or Allan Donald — have said about Nqobani is that he is a "find".

"I think he is one of those kids who's a little bit ahead of his time. He has a natural action. He seems to be a good athlete. He makes good decisions under pressure, and that's a rare thing. He's up there, and I think he's still developing from an athletic point of view. He is definitely a find," said Donald on Saturday.

And Nqobani's mother put it succinctly: "This is the start. We want him to be where he wants to be." Indeed, the 19-year-old is only getting started, and the world is going to see and hear a lot more about him and KwaMashu in the years to come.

Can Shubman Gill in the blanks?

Batter has been subdued in recent times & will be hoping to regain mojo in ODI series vs NZ

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN
@ Chennai

IN the first week of August, Shubman Gill was flying close to the Sun but the halo was a celebration of the batter and the leader he had become. Having been appointed as Test captain following high-profile retirements, India's newly minted No. 4 put up Bradmanesque numbers en route to skippering the side to a fine 2-2 draw in the five-match series.

He was also appointed as captain of the one-day set-up, a recognition that Gill was now Indian cricket's top dog, the public face of one of the world's richest sporting bodies, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). That, though, was August. Five months later, Gill faces his first big test since he was handed the keys to one of the most high-profile gigs in the world of elite sport.

After overseeing an expected 2-0 Test series win over West Indies, a brace of bizarre injuries has seen him lose some of the light that was around him. A neck injury during the first Test against South Africa saw him being ruled out of the series, a series the hosts lost 0-2. He recovered in time for the ODI series Down Under but less than impressive returns (10, 9 and 24) coupled with more below par performances in the subsequent T20I series (4, 0 and 28) before a toe injury forced him to miss more cricket.

It resulted in him losing his spot in the T20I set-up ahead of the World Cup next month. This is new ground for both employer and employee — the Test captain, irrespective of formats, have always been a part of the furniture in the shorter formats going back the last 12 years or so — and that's why this next chapter in the life of Gill promises to be fascinating.

The 26-year-old was not considered for next month's T20 World Cup despite leading India in the longer formats. He has played 36 T20Is for India, scoring 869 runs at an average of 28.03 with a strike rate of 138.59. "I am where I have to be and whatever is written in my destiny no one can take that from me," Gill said when asked about his exclusion from the T20I set-up during the pre series press conference on Saturday. "A player always believes he will try his best for the country and the selectors have taken their decision. I always try to be in the moment and it makes life simpler. The last time we played ODIs against New Zealand, I made my debut and I always cherish that," he said.

"I don't think any format is easy, if you look at it, the Indian team hasn't won an ODI World Cup since 2011. It's easy to say but no format is easy and it requires a lot of effort and determination," he said.

Gill, now 26, has also, because of status as the face of the side, played a lot in 2025. Not counting any domestic games — including T20 franchise games — he has played 35 games for India since the start of 2025 across three continents. These include 26 white-ball games and nine Tests. When you extrapolate that, that's more than 100 days' worth of planning, preparation and recovery comprising of match day minus one, post match day debrief and team meetings. It can very quickly be unsustainable. It's something he addressed.

"Maybe it would be easier to have a little loose calendar," he said. "I don't think in 2016, 2017, 2018, there was a time when if you're coming from another country (back) to India, you're playing a match on the fourth day. Maybe it's easier to play a match on the 10th day. Maybe it's easier to play a match on the 12th day. It gives a bit of breather for the players as well, and it gives you that time to prepare and feel confident for the next series."

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Shubman Gill (R) inspects the pitch during a practice session in Vadodara | PTI

Focus on One-Day format

After a rare three-week international break, the Indian team kick-start a season of white-ball internationals with a three-match ODI series against New Zealand. A look ahead of opening tie today...

EYES ON ROKO

It's time to accept this. As a format, the 50-over game, outside the narrow six month World Cup window, doesn't mean a lot. Context is lacking and stars seldom play this format outside that window. But with Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli wanting one last shot at next year's top prize, this is the one format that they still play for the national team. Which is why there will always be eyeballs on them.

RETURN OF SHREYAS

Shreyas Iyer may still start the series on the bench but this is a significant moment for one of the leaders of this side. He can seriously turn on the heat in the middle overs and his role clarity is something the management will desire in the long term. Having made a recovery post that spleen injury in Australia, the next week or so will offer a look into whether Iyer will be fast-tracked into the T20I set-up.

9 New Zealand are on a nine match winning run

1 This is the Indian men's team's first match in Vadodara since 2010

1.30 PM, VADODARA, LIVE ON STAR SPORTS NETWORK

After Jan, focus on Neeraj's next move

INDRANEEL DAS @ Chennai

AT the Tokyo World Championships in 2025, the same place where he won his Olympic gold in 2021, Neeraj Chopra just about managed to finish eighth. A position he was not at all proud of. A back injury sustained days before the event was what the champion thrower said had caused the decline. This was the first time he has slipped below the top two places after four years .

The season, though, had started with great promise. A new coach, Jan Zelezny, world record holder and an exponent of throwing above 90m, was roped in. The very first competition of the season, at the Doha Diamond League last May, Neeraj crossed that elusive and magical figure – 90m – with ease. It resonated through the world of athletics and a year of promise was predicted.

Though Neeraj did manage to finish in top two, he did not have those consistent 88-89m throws. He had already complained of a groin injury after finishing second behind Arshad Nadeem a the Paris Olympics. And he parted ways with Klaus Bartonietz after Paris. Zelezny was good but somehow it was not reflecting in Neeraj's throws.

One also has to understand that his relationship with the previous coach – Klaus – was different. He was comfortable training with him even when he was injured in 2019 and with the bio-mechanic specialists' temperament was complimenting Neeraj's.

After days of speculations, Neeraj and Zelezny officially parted ways. This was announced through a statement days after Neeraj said he was parting ways with his long-standing sponsors JSW. Though this was expected, Neeraj said it was "working with Jan opened my eyes to so many new ideas. The way he thinks about technique, rhythm, and movement is incredible, and I learned a lot from every single session we had together." What would be interesting is to see whether Neeraj finds a new coach or goes back to someone he has already worked with. Neeraj has hinted on taking "his own coaching direction". With Asian and CWG lined up this season, Neeraj would be looking to find an answer soon.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Giants beat Warriorz by 10 runs, MI thrash Delhi

AGENCIES @ Navi Mumbai

AUSTRALIAN batter Phoebe Litchfield's commanding knock of 78 off just 40 balls went in vain as Gujarat Giants beat UP Warriorz by 10 runs in a high-scoring Women's Premier League match here on Saturday. Sent in to bat, captain Ashleigh Gardner struck a scintillating 65 before Georgia Wareham played a late cameo of 27 not out off just 10 balls as Gujarat Giants posted an impressive 207 for 4. That total proved to be enough despite a stunning counter-attacking innings from Litchfield. But her departure in the 16th virtually ended Warriorz's resistance.

At the end, Warriorz ended at 197 for 8, falling short by 10 runs. In the second match, Mumbai Indians, powered by captain Harmanpreet Kaur's unbeaten 42-ball 74, beat Delhi Capitals by 50 runs.

Gujarat Giants' Ashleigh Gardner (R) & Sophie Devine rejoice after match | AFP

Brief scores: Giants 207/4 (Gardner 65, Anushka 44; Ecclestone 2/32) **bt** UP Warriorz Women 197/8 in 20 ovs (Litchfield 78). MI 195/4 (Kaur 74 n.o, Nat Sciver-Brunt 70) **bt** DC 145 in 19 ovs (Henry 56; Kerr 3/24)

EXPRESS READ

WTT Feeder Series 2026: Divyanshi enters last 8

VADODARA: Youngster Divyanshi Bhowmick and the experienced Anusha Kutumbale recorded stunning wins to reach the women's singles quarterfinals of the WTT Feeder Series here. Divyanshi beat second seed Park Gahyeon of Korea Republic 8-11, 11-9, 11-9, 13-11. Anusha defeated sixth seed Lee Zion 11-6, 11-6, 11-9.

Women's HIL: SG Pipers emerge as champions

RANCHI: SG Pipers beat Shrachi Bengal Tigers 3-2 in shootout after 1-1 stalemate to win the women's Hockey India League title. Preeti Dubey (53rd) and Lalremsiami (16th) scored for SG Pipers and Shrachi Bengal Tigers respectively in the regulation time. HIL announced prize money of ₹1.5 cr for SG Pipers.

Tamil Nadu men cagers to take on Railways in final

ENS @ Chennai

THE Tamil Nadu men's team was on a roll against Uttar Pradesh in the semifinal of the senior national basketball meet here on Saturday. The final scores 102-53 aptly captured their dominance. Despite a cagey end to the first quarter (UP 21-20 TN), Tamil Nadu found their mojo in the second quarter stretching the lead to 35-55 by half-time.

From thereon, points only fell Tamil Nadu's way, as Muin Bek Hafeez dropped 22 points, with a perfect two-point scoring percentage. His three-point shooting was also on show, making four out of eight attempts. Beneath the post was Pranav Prince, whose presence kept UP at bay. The only positive for the visitors was Harsh Dagar (12) and Prince Yadav (15) but with lack of support from teammates, their efforts went in vain. The hosts will face powerhouses Railways in the summit clash on Sunday. Railways, led by senior India men's team captain Palpreet Singh Brar, saw off Delhi 65-53.

Women's semis: TN lose

Defending champions in the women's, Railways, continued their dominating this campaign, seeing off hosts Tamil Nadu in the semifinals.

Results: Women: Railways 88 bt TN 57, Kerala 87 bt Madhya Pradesh 58; **Men:** Railways 63 bt Delhi 53, TN 102 bt Uttar Pradesh 53. **Final line-up: Women:** Railways vs Kerala; **Men:** Railways vs TN.

FOOTBALL ROUND-UP

Hosts Morocco enter AFCON semis

AGENCIES @ Rabat

HOSTS Morocco kept their dream of winning the Africa Cup of Nations in front of their own fans alive with a 2-0 victory over Cameroon in the quarterfinals on Friday, while Senegal saw off neighbours Mali to reach the last four.

Real Madrid winger Brahim Diaz made it five goals in five games at this AFCON to put Morocco in front against Cameroon in front of over 64,000 fans at the Prince Moulay Abdellah Stadium in Rabat, and Ismael Saibari sealed the win in the second half.

"We need to just keep going one game at a time. We have not done anything yet," insisted Morocco coach Walid Regragui,

Morocco's Brahim Diaz (R) celebrates scoring his team's first goal | AFP

who nevertheless also hailed a "historic" victory.

"Moroccans have not seen their team in the semifinal of an AFCON for 22 years. They deserve it but we need to keep our feet on the ground and make it even more historic."

Results: Cameroon **0-2** Morocco; Mali **0-1** Senegal.

Stage set for Cup Clasico

JEDDAH: Xabi Alonso has steadied Real Madrid's ship in recent weeks after a tumultuous period but the Spanish Super Cup Clasico final against Barcelona on Sunday seems a make-or-break moment. On the brink of the sack after a dire run of form, Alonso responded by leading Madrid to five consecutive victories, the fifth coming on Thursday against Atletico Madrid. Beating Barcelona, who trounced Madrid 5-2 in last year's final, also in Jeddah, would bring Alonso a first trophy at the helm.

Jadumani beats Bartwal to claim nat'l boxing crown

ENS @ New Delhi

THE final in the 50-55kg weight category had its share of hype before the starting bell. In the end though, it was up-and-coming star Jadumani Singh who got the better of the Pawan Bartwal 5-0 to pocket the title at the Gautam Buddha University in Greater Noida. SSCB topped the overall standings with 12 gold medals in the Elite Men and Women National Boxing Championships with easy wins at Gautam Buddha University, Greater Noida on Saturday. SSCB won nine of them in men and three in women category.

A few minutes later SSCB's Aditya Pratap (men's 60-65kg) got the better of Abhinash Jamwal of Himachal 3:2 while

Jadumani Singh (R) celebrates his victory on Saturday | BFI

Ankush (men's 75-80kg) defeated Malsawmtluanga to bag their maiden senior national titles. In the women's side, Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain (women's 70-75kg) beat Sanamacha Chanu Thokchom of Railways to win gold.

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Government of Gujarat

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister

Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Gujarat

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